Daily Report

Central Eurasia

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FBIS-SOV-94-209 *28 October 1994*

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NOTICE TO READERS: Effective 1 October, the processing indicators appearing in brackets at the start of each item in this publication will be changed. All new indicators will begin with "FBIS" to make the material more easily identifiable. Some will also indicate whether the item has been translated from the vernacular or transcribed from English.

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ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 28 Oct

LD2810065794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0544 GMT 28 Oct 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow 28 Oct (TASS)—Today's newspapers highlight a session of the State Duma on Thursday [27 October]. After a report made by the Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin lawmakers raised the question of confidence in the Russian Government.

The newspaper ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA published a full text of the prime minister's report, who pointed out that "a vote of confidence is normal and useful for the government." The newspaper goes on to say that "attempts to link the fate of the government with the fate of the presidential course and the fate of Boris Yeltsin himself were clearly manifested, as well as an intention to set the prime minister and the president, the administration and the government, left-wing and right-wing ministers at loggerheads with each other," the newspaper said.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA quoted Chernomyrdin as saying that "we are not building socialism and are not on the way to communism" published in a column "answers to questions".

The IZVESTIYA daily pointed out that Chernomyrdin looked confident enough delivering his "statement-report made in genre unusual for him." "Forestalling debates and a vote of confidence in the government, he preferred attacking, rather than an acquitting tone," the newspaper said.

The newspaper RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA writes that "it was a good discussion," commenting on yesterday's session of the State Duma at which a vote of confidence in the government was discussed. "Naturally, there were no sensations and they were not expected. Nevertheless, yesterday's session of the Duma was rather useful, and in particular, Viktor Chernomyrdin's report, who was not afraid to announce a long-term plan of reforms," the newspaper said.

The TRUD daily reminded of the results of the vote of confidence with 194 votes against the government, 54 votes for and 55 abstentions, whereas the necessary number of votes needed for the government's resignation was 226. "The cabinet has survived, which was easy to predict. Those who voted for the resignation realised this, but thought it necessary to show their attitude to the government's course not only from a rostrum, but by real votes as well." The government's crisis was not needed for the opposition as well, since it did not expect that in the event of the resignation of the cabinet the president would agree to a cabinet which would mean the reverse of reforms. He possessed real "levers" for this. One should not forget that after December 12, the head of the state will be given the right to dissolve the Duma and appoint new elections if there are unsurmountable differences over the composition of a new cabinet. No one is interested in such an outcome today. Now, the government will have to make a serious analysis of the essence of parliamentary criticism voiced against it," the newspaper said.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA and RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA published a full text of Mikhail Gorbachev's address to the mass media, in which the former Soviet president said that "the continuation of the present political course might merely add to social grounds for revenge, revive former and create new social and class differences and in the long run, throw society a long way back." Gorbachev believes that a decisive step to the establishment of democratic power is "holding free democratic elections of the president, the parliament and local authorities without delay.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA, IZVESTIYA and other newspapers comment on a nationwide protest action held on October 27 on the initiative of the Federation of Russian trade unions.

The newspaper NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA published an interview given by the Ukrainian president Leonid Kuchma to journalists of the Ukrainian television company "Nova Mova" and NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. The Ukrainian president said that he had not been accustomed to be somebody's vassal and that he had become Ukraine's president and had passed a road strewn with thorns not to be Russia's vassal. "I am convinced that only partnership will be of benefit to Russia, Ukraine and all neighbouring states," Kuchma said.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA also carries an interview with the Moscow prosecutor Gennadiy Ponomaryev, who said that" contract murders are the most difficult to solve, since they are committed at a top professional level."

The IZVESTIYA daily denounces violent measures taken against Russian passengers by Polish policemen at the Eastern railway station in Warsaw.

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Foreign Ministry Calls Albright Speech 'Self-Sufficient'

LD2710143594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1350 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Valeriy Sevryukov and Vladimir Suprun]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's information and press department Grigoriy Karasin described as "self-sufficient and categoric" the pronouncements of U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations Organization Madeline Albright at a briefing here today.

Karasin commented on the speech of Madeline Albright delivered at the Newport Naval College and saying that Russian interests should be limited to its national borders.

In the words of Karasin, the Russian Foreign Ministry noted statements of the U.S. representative as containing "an estimation low ethical in the political respect".

Commentary Hits Albright View

LD2710163794 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Commentary by Anatoliy Potapov]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States ambassador to the United Nations, Mrs. Madeleine Albright, keeps adding to the group of statements as to what Russia's national interests should be. With some details here is what our commentator Anatoliy Potapov says:

Taking the rostrum at the Naval College in Newport, Rhode Island, Mrs. Albright has delivered her speech on Russia, the second this week. The contents boil down to instructing Russia on what should and what shouldn't form its top foreign policy priorities. Laced with phrases like Russia must or Russia should have no objections to, the speech appeared staggeringly tough and unceremonious. The United States diplomat was seemingly unaware of the irrelevance of the language. In respect of a great world power and a benevolent partner of the United States, the main points of Mrs. Albright's grievances are as follows:

First, she insists that Russia's national interests should be strictly confined to its national territory. Second, she states that the United States will never recognize the so-called spheres of influence of Russia. Should Russia cherish territorial claims of any kind, the verbal outburst might seem justified. But the point is that Russia does not advance any such claims. It is a secret to no one. Mrs. Albright's rhetoric suggests some concern over Russia's peacekeeping within the CIS. Mrs. Albright appears to have no major objections to that but states firmly that Russia should respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the newly formed independent states. It seems a bit strange that Mrs. Albright is so ignorant as to the realities of Russia's present-day foreign policies. True, Russia is a peacekeeper within the CIS. In its peacekeeping capacity it strictly abides by international law and bilateral as well as multilateral agreements with the newly formed independent states.

I agree that the United States diplomat may dislike the somewhat special inter-relationships within the CIS. Age-long, side-by-side cohabitation has resulted in those relations being more than just neighborly. President Yeltsin was wholly justified in stating before the United Nations General Assembly in New York that the CIS is Russia's top economic and foreign policy priority. Nor does it seem fair that this Russia must type of talk should reflect any new trends in Washington. Mrs. Albright's nervousness appears to have resulted from mesmerizing allegations of Russia's imperial ambitions by some Western media sources. Those allegations, however sensational, are entirely malicious. The new democratic Russia lacks any imperial ambitions.

West Willing to Help Eliminate Komi Oil Spill

LD2710174394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1650 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A number of Western countries have said they are prepared to help Russia eliminate the effects of the oil pipe line disaster in the Komi Republic, a source in the Russian Nature Ministry has told the Petroleum Information Agency. However, it did not specify what governmental organizations were prepared to extend such assistance.

The source said that Moscow would make a reply only when the real scale of the accident and the likely costs of repair and rehabilitation work have been established.

So far there have been no confirmed reports as to how much oil leaked through the blow-holes from the oil pipe-line in the Ukhta district of the Komi Republic. Estimates vary from 30 thousand tonnes (Russian sources) to 100 thousand tonnes and more (Western sources).

The government of Komi estimates the damage from the ecological disaster at 60 billion rubles (about $20 million). Meanwhile some Western experts estimate elimination costs at $100 million and say that the Komi accident is the biggest since the crash of the Exxon Valdez oil tanker off Alaska in 1989.

The environmentalist organization Greenpeace recalls some statistics concerning accidents at oil industry facilities of the Pechora oil and gas fields, in the Northwest of Russia.

In a 1973 accident at an oil well oil covered the banks of the Kolva and Pechora rivers 500 kilometers long.

In 1980 through 1087 the Kumzha-9 oil well systematically polluted the Korovinskaya Bay (the Barents sea coast). As a result the concentration of oil products at the

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mouth of the Pechora river was as high as 45 tolerance limits, and in the Korovinskaya Bay 127 tolerance limits.

Greenpeace says that in August 1994 several thousand tonnes of oil leaked from a gas pipe-line in the area of the Khata Yakha river.

Diplomat Cites Possible Influence on Syria

LD2710171694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1550 GMT 27 Oct 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Well informed sources told Interfax that the Russian Foreign Ministry does not rule out that Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev would again go to the Middle East from Winnipeg where he participates in an international conference Partnership for Economic Transformations in Ukraine.

"Kozyrev intends to attend the international conference on economic issues for the Middle East and North Africa to be opened in Casablanca (Morocco) on October 30. After that Kozyrev may fly to Damascus to meet with the Syrian leadership," a top-ranking official from the Russian Foreign Ministry reported in an interview with Interfax.

Another diplomat from Kozyrev's circles said in a conversation with a group of Russian journalists aboard the aircraft that "the Syrian direction" would enjoy priority after the signing of the Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement.

In his words, "one can notice a slow but firm movement forward on this direction." "Russia can exert a certain influence on Syria. In particular, we can be a guarantor of peace agreement for Damascus and include our representatives into the composition of the group of international supervisors who are supposed to be deployed along the Syrian-Israeli border," the diplomat said.

He reminded that first Vice Premier of the Russian government Oleg Soskovets, first deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Mikhail Kolesnikov, and representatives of the Rosvooruzheniye company had visited Damascus over the last period of time.

Speaking about the problem of Golan Heights, the official said: "There is no doubt that the Israelis must leave the Golan Heights. The question concerns only the time, stage-by- stage process, and measures of confidence."

The diplomat specially stressed that "Moscow's proposal on convocation of an international conference on the Middle Eastern settlement in the frameworks of Madrid-2 is still in force." "We should not rule out any means of influence on the situation," he noted.

Characterizing the Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement signed in al-'Aqaba, the diplomat pointed out that "in contrast to the Israeli- Palestinian document in which much has remained unclear this one can be called the final one." "That's why Palestinians are experiencing a certain jealousy," he said.

According to the diplomat, the al-'Aqaba agreement is beneficial both for Israel and for Jordan. "In its time Jordan which rendered support to Iraq appeared in an international isolation. Now the situation has changed, after the signing of this agreement the Americans have decreased debts for Jordanians and promised to resume military deliveries," he said.

He emphasized that "the voice of the Russian co-sponsor has sounded rather weighty in al-'Aqaba." "The Americans failed to sing solo. But we had to struggle so that head of the Russian Foreign Ministry was present at the festive ceremony in al-'Aqaba along with leaders from Jordan, Israel, and the United States. The form of our participation was being determined within the last 48 hours before the ceremony of signing."

When asked whether Kozyrev's recent brief visit to Baghdad has influenced Russia's relations with Israel and other countries of this region, the diplomat said that "this is the matter of the past." "For example, Israel is afraid of Iran's actions more than those of Iraq," he noted.

As Interfax reported earlier, in al-'Aqaba Kozyrev had brief meetings with the US President Bill Clinton, US State Secretary Warren Christopher, King of Jordan Husayn, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on U.S.-DPRK Agreement

LD2710154194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1419 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the framework agreement between the United States and North Korea on the nuclear problem, which was signed on October 21, there are positive and controversial points, the Russian Foreign Ministry's official spokesman Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing in Moscow on Thursday.

He said that this was Moscow's "first impression" about the document.

He said that "diplomats in the Russian Foreign Ministry continue to study" the U.S.-North Korean agreement. "We first of all see how the agreement adds to the observance of the nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty and to making North Korea a nuclear-free country," he said.

It is also important for Russia, said Karasin, to see that its national interests on the Korean Peninsula are being safeguarded.

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Karasin expressed Moscow's readiness to continue the dialogue on the problems with all parties concerned.

Karasin Terms Anti-Cuban Blockade 'Cold War Relapse'

LD2710203594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1732 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Valeriy Sevryukov and Vladimir Suprun]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The anti- Cuban blockade is a cold war relapse. It freezes the confrontation spot in the Caribbean region, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department grigoriy Karasin told a briefing here today.

In his words, this was the stand of Russia in October 26 voting on the need for lift of the U.S. economic, trade and financial blockade of Cuba held at a session of the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution was opposed only by the United States and Israel.

The major reason for Russian approval of the U.N. resolution is that the Russian side cannot agree in principle with unilateral actions taken in violation of the current international-legal norms, as well as the practice of spreading domestic jurisdiction of states outside their own territory, said Karasin. Russia proceeds from the fact that unilateral measures on blockade of Cuba are slowing down social and economic reforms in that state, he noted.

The Russian Foreign Ministry representative said that the beginning U.S.-Cuban dialogue "consistently supported by Russia" is a key to an acceptable solution of the problem of tension around Cuba, including the economic blockade.

In his words, Russia continues to maintain normal political, trade and economic relations with Cuba on the basis of mutual benefit and in strict correspondence with the universal norms of international communication.

Kozyrev Speaks at Forum on Ukrainian Economy

LD2710210794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1839 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Nikolay Setunskiy and Dmitriy Gorokhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Winnipeg October 27 TASS—The revival of Ukrainian economy will be important both for Ukraine and the whole Commonwealth, Russian Foreign Minister andrey Kozyrev told an international conference with the theme "Partnership for Ukrainian Economic Transformations" in the Canadian town of Winnipeg today.

The conference opened here today on Canadian initiative and in accordance with a resolution of the Naples summit.

Kozyrev reminded the conference participants that Russia is a chief partner of Ukraine, since it provides the republic with vital energy sources. Russia is servicing the debt of the former Soviet Union, including the Ukrainian share, which proves close relations in the Commonwealth.

Speaking of international efforts to help Ukraine, the minister noted that the conference should aim at support Ukrainian reforms on the part of international fiscal institutions. He welcomed the decision of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to issue a 365 million dollar credit to Ukraine and expressed the hope the conference will help to raise 600 million dollars to pay for the energy imports of Ukraine. He expressed the wish that part of this sum be used to pay for the delivery of Russian, Turkmen, Commonwealth energy and, thus, guarantee the supplies.

The Russian foreign minister expressed the hope that Russia and Ukraine will agree on the null variant in settlement of problems of debts and assets of the former Soviet Union. Russia is ready to settle the energy payment problem on the basis of a universally- recognized procedure—postpone the payment of the Ukrainian debt till February 1995. This debt was liable to be paid in the fourth quarter of 1994, he said.

Kozyrev said he is sure that the conference participants will share the Russian stand: the sooner ukraine joins the Non- Proliferation Treaty the sooner decision on international assistance to Ukrainian reforms are taken. He reminded that the Naples statement made this a condition of economic assistance.

Canadian Foreign Minister Andre Ouellet said he believes they are sharing the common goal—prospering and democratic Ukraine fully integrated with the world economy. Economic health of Ukraine is important for the international community which cannot leave Ukraine alone with its problems, said the minister. He hopes that the conference resolution will help Ukrainian economic reforms, including the creation of structures of the market economy.

He said Canada will allocate 34 million dollars for aid to Ukraine, and the United States has allocated a greater sum. The minister hopes Russia and Turkmenia [Turkmenistan] will postpone payment of the Ukrainian debt.

Meets Canadian Counterpart

LD2710223094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2004 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Nikolay Setunskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Winnipeg October 27 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and his Canadian counterpart Andre Ouellet have positively estimated the state and prospects for bilateral relations. The meeting was held today in Winnipeg where the ministers

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have arrived to head their delegations to an international conference with the theme "Partnership for Ukrainian Economic Transformations".

Russia and Canada have identical views of the need for consolidated security in Europe, they share concern over the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kozyrev told correspondents upon the meeting completion. He said that the Canadian foreign minister will come to Russia in two weeks to discuss in detail all aspects of bilateral relations. Kozyrev expressed the hope for further contacts between the two states which have common goals and concerns.

In his turn, Oeullet told ITAR-TASS he agrees with the Russian minister that the Russian-Canadian relations are developing good and the two states have common goals in many aspects. Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien will attend a CSCE summit in Budapest in December and hopes to meet Boris Yeltsin there, said the minister. He hopes that the Russian president will come to Canada on an official visit in 1995.

Kozyrev Returns to Moscow

LD2810101394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0920 GMT 28 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 28 Oct—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev returned to Moscow today from his visit to Canada. He took part in the international conference "Partnership for Economic Reforms in Ukraine" in the Canadian town of Winnipeg. At this forum A. Kozyrev presented Russia's position as Ukraine's major creditor, and appealed for a sympathetic approach to the Ukrainian reforms. The head of the Russian foreign political department stressed that restoring the Ukrainian economy will be a major factor in the economic and social stabilization of the entire CIS.

Kuchma Calls For G-7 Aid

LD2710155694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1419 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine in a speech to the international forum in Winnipeg (Canada) discussing financial assistance to Kiev has called on G-7 nations for $5.5 billion of aid for his country's economic reforms.

He said "although this aid is not the only condition for implementing economic reforms in Ukraine, it is of vital importance to us."

The Ukrainian leader hopes that the forum will help restructure Kiev's foreign debt, re-open existing credit lines and reschedule its liabilities to the Paris Club.

He is also hopeful that changes in domestic legislation including investment security guarantees will help attract foreign investors and their participation in the privatization campaign to provide a huge incentive for the country's economic recovery and growth.

Kuchma spoke of wanting the financing of specific projects as a priority in economic reforms in areas such as power generation, industrial restructuring, conversion of defense-related plants and financial stabilization.

He also called for Kiev's greater involvement in the development of all European energy grids, and transport and communications networks.

Ukraine which is due to introduce a new national currency unit, hryvna, is also in need of financial aid to establish a stabilization fund to prop it up.

The government and the National Bank of Ukraine met recently to adopt several resolutions aimed at implementing the IMF-offered austerity plan which includes unification of the currency rate, liberalization of export trade and phasing out government price controls.

Kuchma said he expected the forum to work out a mechanism to enable Ukraine to get access to IMF's standby credit of $1.5 billion, the World Bank's rehabilitation credit and financial resources to help reform the country's energy sector, eliminate the consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident and enhance safety at nuclear power plants.

The Ukrainian leader also spoke of being aware that such aid was conditional on the lifting of export controls, liberalization of prices and domestic trade, reduction of the budget deficit and other measures.

In his words, the government planned to deregulate a total of 10,000 small size businesses by the end of this year with medium and large size plants being brought into the process in 1995.

"A new amendment to land legislation will allow farmers to sell their land plots after a six year period of use," Kuchma said.

"If a series of reforms is carried out, we are sure that Ukraine will become a credit-worthy country," he said.

The Winnipeg forum involves IMF Executive Director Michel Camdessus, representatives of G-7 countries, Russia and Turkmenistan. Russia is represented by Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev.

Chernomyrdin, Kozyrev 'Argue' Over Caspian Deal

MK2710122094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Aydyn Mekhtiyev under the "Azerbaijan-Russia" rubric: "Chernomyrdin and Kozyrev Argue Over Caspian Oil. Baku Waits for Russian President's Decision"]

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[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Russian Prime Minister Chernomyrdin and Foreign Minister Kozyrev still differ on what stance Moscow should take on the "contract of the century"—the agreement on oil production in the Caspian Sea, which was signed 20 September between the Azerbaijani Government and a consortium of Western companies. [passage omitted]

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA has learned from reliable sources in the Russian Government that the statement to the effect that Boris Yeltsin supports the Russian Foreign Ministry's stance on the Caspian Sea is only partially correct. Indeed, at Andrey Kozyrev's recommendation the Russian president signed secret directive No. 396-rps "On Ensuring the Interests of the Russian Federation in the Caspian Sea" of 21 July, which speaks about upcoming economic sanctions against Baku if it proceeds with the implementation of the oil project. At the same time, Andrey Kozyrev sent a letter to Viktor Chernomyrdin, proposing, among other things, that "trade, economic, and financial measures be taken to prod this country to heed Russian interests and standards of international law." One such step, in the minister's view, could be a ban on utilizing Russia's internal waterways by ships under the Azerbaijani flag. In other words, the issue is a maritime blockade of Azerbaijan. It has transpired, however, that Viktor Chernomyrdin did not sign the draft directive proposed by Andrey Kozyrev that called for comprehensive sanctions to be imposed on Azerbaijan. [passage omitted]

In all likelihood, the Russian leadership's stance on Caspian oil production will be clarified in the near future. Observers predict an escalation in the struggle between hard-liners in the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry under Kozyrev and the chiefs of the fuel and energy sector, who stand for intensive cooperation with Azerbaijan in the Caspian Sea. The Russian prime minister energetically backs the industrialists in this struggle. In this situation a lot will depend on the Russian president, who does not have a clear view on the problem yet. On one hand, Yeltsin cannot ignore the interests of professional Russian oilmen. On the other, the Russian Foreign Ministry is unlikely to give up its attempts to convince Yeltsin of the need to talk with Azerbaijan from a position of strength. All the more so because the Foreign Ministry's view is being actively supported by the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service [FIS]. It has transpired that FIS chief Yevgeniy Primakov said during his regular meeting with Yeltsin that the oil contract poses a threat to Russian national security interests. Nonetheless the president has for the time being suspended July directive No. 396 on the Caspian Sea.

Commentary Notes U.S. Attempts to Lift Bosnia Arms Embargo

LD2710183694 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Commentary by Yuriy Solton, read by announcer]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The United States plans on Friday to submit to the UN Security Council a draft resolution on the lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina, or to put it otherwise, to the Bosnian Muslims. This has been announced by the official spokesman for the UN secretary general. Yuriy Solton has compiled the following:

Despite strong fears expressed even by its NATO partners, Washington persistently seeks a lifting of the embargo. The U.S. NEWSWEEK magazine has recently quoted a White House official as saying Washington will probably ask Saudi Arabia and Turkey to help the Bosnian Muslims. Apart from this, weapons may be supplied from the American arsenals in Western Europe or purchased from Slovakia and Poland, armed with Soviet-made ammunition and hardware. The NEWSWEEK points out that in case the U.S resolution is voted down, Washington will take unilateral steps to provide the Bosnian Muslims with arms.

One can see that the United States approach to regional conflicts is becoming increasingly militaristic. First Iraq, Somalia, and Haiti, and now Bosnia-Herzegovina. Washington has sent not a single soldier to the UN peacekeeping force in Bosnia. The hard and difficult job to keep fragile peace in the Republic is being done by other foreign troops.

So, what will happen if the Muslims eventually receive modern hardware? Will it bring to reason the Bosnian Serbs, up to now refusing to accept a peace plan proposed by the international Contact Group? Rather, it may be the other way round. Pushed by the active support of the United States, and pinning their hopes on NATO, the Muslims may attempt to escalate the war. Britain, France, Russia, Spain, and Canada have already announced that they will recall their troops from the international peacekeeping contingent. In this case they are supposed to be replaced by troops from Muslim countries, which will only irritate the Bosnian Serbs.

The prospects are gloomy. The club for peacekeeping efforts is prone with a restart of the war, threatening to spread beyond the Bosnian borders.

During his talks in Washington with President Bill Clinton, President Boris Yeltsin said Russia firmly opposed the lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia. As a Security Council permanent member, Russia may put a veto on the American resolution. Moscow believes the political means of settling the conflict have not yet been exhausted. Instead of pushing Bosnia toward war, one should patiently seek to bring the positions of the warring factions closer together. This is precisely what the international Contact Group—comprising Russia, the European Union, and the United States—should be trying to achieve.

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Political Issues

Hijack Attempt at Moscow Airport Foiled

LD2710162394 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Unidentified criminals seized a Tu-154 passenger airliner at Moscow's Vnukovo I airport this evening. Its designated route was Moscow-Mineralnyye Vody. INTERFAX reported this, quoting informed sources. According to information available to the agency, the terrorists demanded 2 million dollars and maps of Iran and Iraq, as well as weapons. There were no reports about there being passengers aboard the airliner. According to the latest information, which our radio station has just received, the criminals who seized the plane have been neutralized. Details in the next news bulletin.

Kostikov Says Government Won 'Battle' for Reform

LD2810091894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0851 GMT 28 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Melnikova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, October 28 TASS—"The government won the battle for the budget and, in a broader sense, for reform", presidential spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov told TASS on Friday commenting on the no-confidence vote which the government has narrowly escaped on Thursday.

He added that now "It became clear that reforms will be conducted in a tougher way, especially in the financial sphere".

The spokesman believes that the discussion of the government work in the State Duma on Thursday allowed "To ease political tension, avoid a government crisis and an aggravation of relations between the president and the State Duma".

Kostikov admitted that the appointment of the new agriculture minister, Aleksandr Nazarchuk, from the Agrarian Party was a "concession to the Agraraian-Communist lobby", but added that it was "an acceptable tactical manoeuvre".

"The president cannot ignore the existing balance of forces in the State Duma. The opposition is consolidated enough. The president and the prime minister profitably swapped quantity for quality", the spokesman said.

He also stressed that Nazarchuk's appointment "does not break the integrity of the cabinet" of ministers. He recalled that it is Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Zaveryukha who is responsible for agriculture. He was believed to be a supporter of the Soviet-era agricultural system, but "Cogged into the reformist team of Yeltsin-Chernomyrdin", according to Kostikov.

He admitted that the appointment "disillusioned" the democratic factions, but said that had "The democrats acted by a single front and from united positions, had they more stubbornly lobbied their interests, it would be easier for the president and the prime minister to deter the opposition".

Yeltsin Appoints Nazarchuk as Agriculture Minister

LD2710152694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1419 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin accepted the resignation of Agriculture and Food Ministry Viktor Khlystun Thursday, the presidential press service reports.

Yeltsin appointed Aleksandr Nazarchuk, State Duma Agrarian Committee chairman and an Agrarian Party leader, to that position.

Nazarchuk, an ethnic Ukrainian, was born in 1939. He graduated from the Altay Agricultural Institute as an agronomist.

He worked as chief agronomist and director of state-owned farms in Altay 1964-75, then chaired a district soviet and was secretary of Communist Party district committees from 1975 to 1987.

He was elected to the State Duma on the Agrarian Party ticket, is a member of the party's Central Council and a leader of the party's parliamentary group.

New Minister To Continue Reforms

LD2710144594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1413 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The nomination of Aleksandr Nazarchuk, deputy from the Agrarian Party, new Russian minister of agriculture does not mean any change in the government policy of agrarian reforms, Vice-Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha told ITAR-TASS today.

In his words, the new appointment "was made with my participation. We have repeatedly discussed the candidature of Aleksandr Nazarchuk with Prime Minister Chernomyrdin, and the president supported the candidature as well".

On the whole, the cabinet will continue a policy towards integration of agrarian producers and processors, stressed Zaveryukha, who is supervising the agriculture. He said that the government will further support private property in the countryside and corporatization of farms (about 95 per cent of them have been corporaticized). It will hold a policy towards legalization and constitutionalization of the law on land which has not been adopted.

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He said the government will use legislative initiative and prepare bills on the countryside. The draft law on regulation of the agro-industrial complex will soon be submitted to the State Duma, said Zaveryukha.

Travkin Calls Appointment 'Grave Mistake'

LD2710195494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1650 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister without portfolio Nikolay Travkin has called a grave mistake the appointment of the head of the Duma committee for agriculture Aleksandr Nazarchuk the Agriculture Minister. He said the appointment will be undoubtedly followed by increased pressure on the budget by the farming lobby. Travkin pointed to the extreme danger of the tendency considering that farming-related spending is comparable only to spending on defence.

Travkin recently suspended his leadership of the Democratic Party and its Duma faction following a split in the faction. Eight members led by the chairman of the Duma committee for economic policy Sergey Glazyev demanded a vote of no confidence in the cabinet, while the other seven members, including Travkin, were opposed to the demand.

President's Staff To Have Wider Powers

MK2710120094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 27 Oct 94 pp 1, 3

[Report by Ilya Bulavinov: "Parliament on Confidence in Government. Power Returns to Staraya Ploshchad"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Whether the State Duma will vote "for" or "against" the government's resignation today has been perhaps the main political problem in recent days. Whereas the last word here is for the president, the result of the discussions can hardly be thought of as final. Presumably, the composition of the cabinet and who will be the premier are not going to remain in such sharp focus, because the government's role is gradually being reduced to making purely economic decisions devoid of strategic perspective. [passages omitted]

New Tasks for an Old Comrade-in-Arms

The ways of the deputies, however, are inscrutable. If the Duma votes to fire the government and the president accepts the resignation, he would be able simultaneously to demonstrate an inclination for civilized political relations and unseat Chernomyrdin under a plausible pretext if need be.

Should Chernomyrdin go, the sharpness of differences in parliament may result in a compromise figure being elected premier, whom the factions would approve out of strategic considerations.

Clearly, this figure is not Yuriy Luzhkov, Yuriy Skokov, Yegor Gaydar, or Gennadiy Zyuganov—none of the clearly visible politicians reflecting the interests of the major factions and powerful forces. Observers think Oleg Soskovets, for example, could be such a figure. The more so because no one regards this man as a possible presidential candidate. Yeltsin, however, may also propose a different candidate, but the candidate would most likely also meet these requirements.

Such a conclusion is indirectly supported by information KOMMERSANT-DAILY has received about a proposed reshuffle in the president's staff. According to information from several confidential sources, Sergey Filatov may soon be replaced as chief of staff by Security Council Secretary Oleg Lobov. The sources claim that the men in the Kremlin are increasingly dissatisfied with the chief of staff, seeing in him an official who is trying to control the solution of questions with which he is not supposed to concern himself. One glowing example is Chechnya. Filatov decided to take personal charge of this most acute problem, and what this has led to can be seen today. It is also claimed that the chief of staff has lately come to evince too vivid an interest in the progress of post-voucher privatization. Among Filatov's liabilities is also the strong opinion among Yeltsin's entourage that the chief of staff is more devoted to the idea than to the president himself. But most important, Yeltsin seems to want to charge the staff with new tasks Sergey Filatov is not especially suited to tackle. [passage omitted]

Informal, But Unlimited Power

The staff currently has virtually all the structures needed for running the country. Except one—it does not have a subdivision responsible for the actions of the "power" departments. According to information received by KOMMERSANT-DAILY, this gap too is supposed to be closed. This is being done under the banner of the need for coordinating the actions of all the "power" departments, for which purpose a new subdivision is to be created—the Main Military Directorate of Administration [Glavnoye Voyennoye Upravleniye Administratsii]—which is to keep tabs on the Federal Counterintelligence Service, the Armed Forces, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Foreign Intelligence Service, the Federal Agency of Government Communications and Information, the Federal Border Service, and the civil defense troops now subordinated to the government. After this, the staff will finally become a powerful center in running the country, similar to the former CPSU Central Committee. Like the powers of the Central Committee in the past, nothing is said in the Constitution about the staff's powers today.

Sverdlovsk Cadres Decide Everything

In the absence of legislative acts regulating the operation of the staff, and if its head should play the apparatus games skillfully (given the president's favorable attitude, of course), the government may become reduced to a set of departments with limited powers. In this case parliament, which does not control the staff in any way, would

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in practice have no influence on Kremlin policy. The Kremlin, for that matter, will not be too much worried over the factions' claims to ministerial portfolios and the premiership, and consequently, over the results of parliamentary elections.

In connection with the possibility of a higher role for the staff, its new head would have to make it into a team of like-minded persons so that it could effectively tackle the new tasks. Oleg Lobov's joining it would make for stronger positions of the Sverdlovsk team where Viktor Ilyushin, first aide to the president, also belongs. Men hailing from the same place are likely to find a common language sooner than Ilyushin and Filatov could.

Sergey Filatov's departure would probably weaken the position of the politicians usually called democrats. Most likely, those who signed the letter to Boris Yeltsin about his conduct during his foreign tours will be the first to leave the president's entourage. According to our sources, for example, Oleg Lobov's seat on the Security Council may be taken by Yuriy Baturin, one of the men who signed the letter, and Vyacheslav Kostikov will continue in his position for only so long.

Politically, should these assumptions prove right, the reform of the staff will be rather indicative. It would provide quite solid proof that, as Boris Yeltsin maintained, the 1996 presidential elections will take place and he intends to take part in them. Yeltsin must be confident that he has enough strength to continue to run the country, and that the time for sharp measures has passed.

Gaydar Gives Cabinet Conditional Support

MK2710105094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 2

[Report from St. Petersburg by Vadim Nesvizhskiy under the "Democratic Choice" rubric: "Yegor Gaydar Is Certain the Government Will Be Trusted. Democratic Choice of Russia Chief Convinced That Dmitriy Kholodov's Murder Was an Anti-Presidential Provocation"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yegor Gaydar, who arrived in St. Petersburg yesterday to cheer up the "Russia's Choice" bloc in the run-up to the municipal elections scheduled for 30 October, said he is certain that the no-confidence vote in the cabinet is unrealistic. In Mr. Gaydar's words, the government would have fallen had his faction also denied it confidence, but "Russia's Choice" would vote today to support the Cabinet of Ministers.

"A resignation of the government could only trigger further destabilization, and we would not like to assume such a responsibility," the Democratic Choice of Russia [DCR] leader said. According to Mr. Gaydar, his faction still gives the government conditional support. "For instance, we cannot support the agrarian wing of the Cabinet of Ministers, but we will without doubt give our backing to such figures as Kozyrev, Chubays, and others," Gaydar said.

The DCR leader noted that he "would undoubtedly welcome the creation of a broad democratic coalition including "Yabloko" and the "12 December Union," but for the time being this is impossible given that the differences between them are far too great: "The best proof that, contrary to Yavlinskiy's statements, we were moving in the right direction (in 1992—Vadim Nesvizhskiy) is the situation in the Baltic states, which have stuck with tight monetarism and have defeated inflation."

In Mr. Gaydar's view, the trade union action scheduled for today will not achieve anything either.

Regarding the conflict between the press and the Defense Ministry following the murder of MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS correspondent Dmitriy Kholodov, Yegor Gaydar said: "Had they really wanted to get rid of Kholodov, they would have done it quietly." In his opinion, those who carried out this act planned to set the press against the Defense Ministry, and after the president would have spoken in support of the army leadership, to set the press on the president as well.

"I am certain that the murder was a well-planned action," Yegor Gaydar summed up.

State Media Law Provisions Examined

MM2810145794 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Yevgeniy Kuzin under the "Mass Media" rubric: "Poltoranin Is Prepared Personally To Support the Press at the State's Expense"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Deputies of the lower chamber of parliament met Wednesday [26 October] to discuss the draft law "On State Support for the Mass Media" on its second reading. But the hearings did not take place—the Committee for Information Policy and Communications, which is preparing the document, had not had time to examine all the submitted amendments and comments. The deputies will most likely see the final version of the draft Friday [28 October].

It should be pointed out first of all that the law will finally bury the subsidies which have sometimes turned into state prizes for loyalty. What is proposed instead is a system of concessions in the spheres of finances, taxes, and privatization for all publications without exception. Value-added tax will be reduced, and the special tax will be abolished. It is planned to exempt the press from tax on the profits which newspapers and journals make from journalistic activity (if these exist at all). In addition, profits from the editorial office's commercial activity will also be exempt from this tax, but only if they are

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plowed back into publishing the newspaper and equipping the editorial office, in other words to meet journalistic needs.

The law will also ensure customs privileges, chief among which is the removal of the duty on imports of printing equipment and materials (paper, ink, plates).

The government was afraid that such measures would create a huge hole in the budget and did not approve the draft. But the committee's economists proved the untenability of that opinion. For example, the shortfall in tax revenues will result in losses of 60-70 billion rubles [R], while R110 billion was being allocated to subsidies. Privatization is the only sphere where the budget might not at once gain a big advantage.

The document's authors were severely critical of the government decree on the privatization of printing enterprises, according to which combines are virtually being sold off to those who have money today. The government leaves combine workers and journalists with just 25 percent of the shares and stipulates at the same time that shares can be bought only up to a value of 20 times the minimum salary. According to simple calculations by the committee's staffers, it is clear that newspaper people and print workers will actually get just 4-5 percent of the shares.

Therefore the committee proposed its own version. The labor collective must get one-fifth of the shares, and one-half are farmed out to the editorial boards which print their publications at a given combine. The remaining 30 percent pass into federal ownership. If the law is approved, according to this version practically all printing houses and printing enterprises will be privatized. The only exceptions will be those which are the only ones of their kind and which represent a federal asset (for example, "Detskaya Kniga," plants manufacturing offset plates and printer's ink—the only ones in Russia, and so on). In the committee's opinion, it would be a mistake to transfer these enterprises to private hands immediately, and so their fate will be decided over the next three years.

Following a demand by communications workers, a similar scheme for the privatization of transmitting centers had to be dropped from the draft. In the opinion of certain deputies, they do not want to share their equipment with television workers because the latter do not wish to share the revenue from advertising.

The only part of the draft law that gives rise to doubt is the creation of the National Mass Media Development Fund. According to committee leader Mikhail Poltoranin, the fund will earn money jointly with editorial boards and will become a nonbudget source of funding for publications. Newspapers will have to turn for assistance not to the Committee for the Press, as today, but to the fund. Thus, the money allocated by the fund will be a little different from the existing subsidies, and the new association will be able to influence the mass media's policy.

Other structures, however, also want to play a similar role in the life of the press. The government has criticized really severely the idea of a fund "created with budget money." The president is creating the mass media development fund by means of his edict, allocating money from his own reserve, and is entrusting his own regional representatives with controlling the money's use.

I believe, therefore, that precisely the item of the fund's creation will give rise to the most heated arguments Friday.

Economic Issues

FITUR Pursuing Political Goals Through Protest

MM2810131794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Rustam Arifdzhanov: "Trade Unions Have Not Yet Become a 'School of Capitalism.' It Is Easier To Stage a Protest Against the Government Than Against Your Own Director"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Around 6 trillion rubles are owed to the working people by plants and factories, mines, schools, polyclinics, and other enterprises and institutions in our boundless motherland. At the summons of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions [FITUR] the working people came out for a "protest action" 27 October. The spirit of the protest was mainly directed against the state, specifically against the government which embodies it.

But is only the government to blame for everything?

Wages should be paid. And on time as well, undoubtedly. But it is the employer's obligation to do so. The government and the executive organs are indisputably responsible in spheres where they are the direct employers: education, health care, and the law enforcement organs.

In the overwhelming majority of other cases the main culprit is the enterprise director. It is his lack of resourcefulness and his inability to manage which brings a plant into a lamentable condition. But—both in yesterday's protest action and in previous strikes, pickets, and stoppages—the "independent" trade unions have led the working people, as a rule, not against specific directors and managers, but against the government. It is safer that way and, moreover, the impact is greater.

In organizing this symbolic "action" FITUR is naturally pursuing its own goals.

Above all the protest action demonstrates the touching concern of the current trade union leaders—graduates from the military-industrial complex—for the sector which nurtured and reared them. Wages account for no more than 18 percent of the defense order. But FITUR is demanding all the money allocated for the entire defense order. In the upshot the "All-Russia protest action,"

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should its organizers prevail, will provoke a new inflationary spiral and further deterioration of the standard of living of those who mounted the picket lines Thursday in response to the call of the trade union committees.

FITUR also needs the "day of action" to demonstrate its strength to the president. If they are successful, the trade unions hope to secure ownership of the vast quantity of state property handed over by the Soviet Government to the working people as embodied by the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, and to recover direct control of state social security funds.

And finally, the "All-Russia protest action" is an attempt to establish FITUR as a political force. In this respect the strange alliance with the Federation of Commodity Producers—directors and workers hitched to the same wagon, contrary to all logic—is no accident. Nor is the participation in the protest action of activists from "Working Russia" and other procommunist organizations any surprise.

When it comes to the specific and just demands of the working people, and not the political and other ambitions of the union bosses, it appears that it is more logical and rational to resolve them at the silent conveyor belts or through the courts than at rallies.

Interesting in this respect are the proposals of another trade union association, not participating in the protest action—Sotsprof [Association of Socialist Trade Unions]. To pay the wages owed to each worker by the state by mid-November. Not to hinder workers and their trade unions from seeking payment of their wages from enterprises. To introduce by presidential edict punitive sanctions in favor of workers against employers for holding back payments. To create a voluntary wage insurance system by attracting money from state social funds formed from deductions from pay. To step up the activity and raise the status of the Federal Service for the Settlement of Labor Conflicts.

Money should be demanded from the director. Or it should be demanded that the state replace the director, if the enterprise is state-owned. But FITUR's trade union committees, as a rule, do not call for such actions, which are not "all-Russian" but specific and unsensational.

Military & Space Issues

Grachev 'Will Not Resign' Over Kholodov Murder

LD2710140594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1140 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Borovkov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, 27 Oct—"The main aim of the trip to the Far East is connected with the fact that in the near future there will be a reshuffle in the general operative command of all the armed forces in our country's Far East," Army General Pavel Grachev, who is also Russia's defense minister, told a news conference today.

As already reported, the defense department chief arrived in Kamchatka on Wednesday, as part of his trip to Russia's eastern regions, in order to study the situation in the armed forces and to deal with servicemen's urgent social problems. Pavel Grachev said it has been decided to create here a united regional operational command. The minister stressed that whatever changes there may be in foreign policy, the role of the military in the region and their tasks will remain the same: to ensure Russia's security on its eastern frontiers. Changes will involve personnel cuts and upgrading of weapons. But there will be no change in the sense that combat readiness will not be reduced.

Concerning his alleged "lack of popularity in the army," Pavel Grachev said that from now on his answer to his opponents will be: "Go to the Far East. Then you will find out what servicemen think of me." The Army, he said, is not in Moscow, but in remote parts—in the east of the country, in the North, in the Transcaucasus. These are the places where people can find out what the Army thinks of the defense minister—not in the corridors of Moscow.

The minister denied the allegations made against him and the Defense Ministry concerning the death of journalist Dmitriy Kholodov. Dmitriy Kholodov, he said, posed no threat either to the Army or to me personally. His murder, Grachev continued, had the aim of discrediting and destroying Russia's chief intelligence department. Big politics is involved, and I do not deny that the special services of a number of states were involved. In conclusion, he said: "I will not resign, no matter how much some people might want me to."

Grachev on Plans for Reshaping Commands

MM2810083994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Aleksandr Pelts: "Defense Minister Clarifies Army Reform Plans"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister, spent the working day with the naval seamen of the Kamchatka Naval Flotilla. On the eve of this trip the defense minister once again told journalists about possible ways of reforming the Russian Armed Forces. The gist of what he said is that there are plans in the future to create a joint territorial command and territorial groupings of forces. There will be four groupings: North (Northern Fleet and Leningrad Military District forces), South (all North Caucasus Military District forces), Ural-Transbaykal, and Far East.

Army General Pavel Grachev believes that the creation of a single joint territorial command of groupings will make for an improvement in the system of command and control of forces and for increased efficiency. Of the

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four proposed groupings three (North, South, and Far East) must be prepared to carry out real combat tasks to protect Russia's national interests. The fourth (Ural-Transbaykal) will train reserves in the interests of the other groupings.

The defense minister believes that the groupings' commanders must be given higher status. In fact, they must be his deputies. Pavel Grachev intends to put his proposals to Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin.

Despite heavy commitments during his trip, Army General Pavel Grachev is keeping a close eye on the vicissitudes of the military budget. He told journalists that he still regards the planned military expenditure as unrealistic and is prepared to prove that he is right. Pavel Grachev also said that his parliamentary hearing concerning morale in the forces has been postponed, according to his information, until November. But the minister confirmed his willingness to be utterly frank with deputies about the Army's problems, including those that have been identified during the trip to the Far East region.

Yesterday Army General Grachev flew to Ulan Ude. He is to meet with the Buryatia leadership and inspect Transbaykal region military units.

Four 'Territorial Commands' Planned

LD2710153694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1419 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia's Defense Ministry plans to simplify the armed forces coordination system by transforming the eight operational military districts into four combined territorial commands.

According to Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, the four territorial groups will be called Northern, Southern, Ural-Baykal, and Far Eastern. The Far Eastern and Southern Commands are planned to be formed by the end of next year.

Hoping for better interaction between the armed forces through this reform, Grachev is going to ask President Yeltsin, as the Supreme Army Commander, to appoint four territorial commanders in the rank of deputy defense ministers.

He also reported his intention to speak in the Duma next month following the State Duma's decision to invite Grachev to one of its coming sessions to report about morale in the army in the wake of media reports about corruption among military leaders.

Debt to Russian Defense Ministry Estimated at R9 Billion

LD2710203794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1733 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—"The 1994 debt to the Russian Defence Ministry is estimated at nine billion rubles. The debt sum is equal to the quarter spending on defence," Deputy Head of the Duma Committee for Defence Aleksandr Piskunov said here today. In his words, the troops have stopped combat training, and conservation of materiel is underway.

The Ministry of Finance is transferring certain sums of money to the account of the Defence Ministry in violation of the current legislation. However, the money is mainly used to restructuring of the defence complex.

Piskunov said they need state support to priority areas of the defence complex and not restructuring. The 1995 budget provides further curtailment of the defence items, which will entail lowered prestige of the Army service.

A major task of the Russian Government is the upkeep of Russian defenceability, said Piskunov.

Yeltsin Edict on Baykonur Cosmodrome

MM2810113194 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 3

[Unnumbered edict of the Russian Federation President, signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin and dated Moscow, the Kremlin, 24 October 1994: "On the Organization of the Further Utilization of the Baykonur Cosmodrome in the Interests of the Russian Federation's Space Activity"]

[FBIS Translated Text] With a view to efficiently utilizing the Baykonur comsodrome for the implementation of Russia's space programs and in connection with the signing of the Agreement on the Basic Principles and Conditions of the Utilization of the Baykonur cosmodrome between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan, I decree that:

1. The Russian Federation Government is to organize the takeover of the Baykonur complex from the government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and ensure its proper functioning. Proposals for candidacy for the post of head of Leninsk City Administration are to be prepared within one month.

The following provisions are to be made during the formation and amplification of the federal budget:

the allocation of appropriations to pay for the lease of the Baykonur cosmodrome and the upkeep of the city of Leninsk;

the allocation of appropriations to the Russian Space Agency and the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense for expenditure by the Military Space Forces on operational costs and purchases of series-produced equipment for the utilization, maintenance, upgrading, and retooling of the Baykonur cosmodrome's facilities and the upkeep of servicemen;

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the allocation of the necessary volume of capital investment, including for the construction of housing in the Russian Federation for persons discharged from military service after serving with the Russian Federation Armed Forces on the territory of the Baykonur cosmodrome, and also for employees of enterprises and organizations working in the Baykonur complex on a permanent basis.

2. It is prescribed that the financial, material, and technical support for, and the utilization of, the Baykonur complex facilities used for the implementation of Russian military space programs are to be carried out by the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense (Military Space Forces), and that these functions as regards the implementation of Russia's federal space program are to be carried out by the Russian Space Agency under contracts with industrial enterprises and organizations and the comsodrome's military units.

The financial, material, and technical support of facilities connected with ensuring the proper functioning of the Baykonur complex is to be shared proportionately between the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense (Military Space Forces) and the Russian Space Agency.

3. A special military contingent numbering 16,000 men, including 3,800 officers, and not forming part of the numerical strength of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, is to be maintained from 1 January 1995 through 1 January 1997, from funds allocated to the Russian Space Agency from the federal budget, as part of the Military Space Forces for the implementation of space programs for scientific and national-economic purposes and international cooperation, and also for the utilization of facilities connected with ensuring the proper functioning of the Baykonur complex.

The Russian Federation Ministry of Defense is to ensure the manning levels of the aforementioned military contingent and provide it with all types of allowance.

4. The Russian Federation Ministry of Defense (Military Space Forces) are charged with the overall coordination of work carried out at the Baykonur cosmodrome.

5. This edict comes into force on the day it is signed.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
[Dated] Moscow, the Kremlin, 24 October 1994

'Mir' Astronauts Continue Technological Studies

LD2810105394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1021 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Flight Control Centre October 28 ITAR- TASS—Medical and technological studies are today's programme of the international crew of the "Mir" orbiting station. The 16th and the 17th flight crews have been through three weeks of the joint mission.

Ulf Merbold, the astronaut of the European Space Agency, will carry out a series of studies on effects of weightlessness on the human.

Physician Valeriy Polyakov will examine cardiovascular responses of Yuriy Malanchenko and Talgat Musabayev to the gravity-simulating suit "Chibis" which is to be used in conditioning of astronauts for reentry.

Aleksandr Viktorenko and Yelena Kondakova will undergo follow-up medical tests. Their programme also includes equipment maintenance tasks.

The materials engineering programme projects an experiment using an electric heating device, "Gallar." The experiment designed by Kazakh experts seeks to find out optimal melting and crystallisation regimens which would yield materials with target properties

The astronauts are doing well.

Counterintelligence Academy Holding Open Day 29 Oct

MM2810125394 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Oct 94 p 1

["Own Information" report under the "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and News Agency Correspondents Report" rubric: "Counterintelligence Service Opens Its Doors. For One Day Only"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian Federation Federal Counterintelligence Service [FCS]—The Russian Federation FCS Academy is holding an open day 29 October, starting at 1000 hours. The higher educational establishment's senior scientists and command personnel will acquaint people with entry regulations and the peculiarities of training. And when counterintelligence officers and specialists are being trained in the spheres of cryptography, communications, and information technology, these are extremely specific.

The academy's address is Michurinskiy Prospekt, 62. Take buses 793 and 785 from Prospekt Vernadskogo and Yugo-Zapadnaya subway stations.

Federal Assembly

Duma Votes Confidence in Government 194-54

LD2710145494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1435 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 27 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—The proposal that the Russian Federation government should resign was not adopted this evening as a result of the vote in the State Duma.

One hundred and ninety-four deputies voted for the motion of no confidence in the Chernomyrdin cabinet, 54 opposed the no-confidence motion, 55 abstained. In accordance with the legislation, 266 votes were required to make the government resign.

Chernomyrdin Replies to Duma Debate

LD2710150394 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1410 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] At the sitting of State Duma, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin has taken the floor

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to make his concluding remarks. The thing is that the debate which has been going on for seven hours has just ended. Quite a few deputies, all representatives of groups and the heads of State Duma committees have already spoken. A lot of criticism has been leveled at the government, and now we are listening to the head of government.

[Begin Chernomyrdin recording] Esteemed chairman, esteemed members of State Duma: I have very many impressions. Naturally, I have drawn considerable conclusions for myself, and the first thing to say is that, of course, we should meet more often. I am convinced that many people have little knowledge of the government and perhaps even of its work, and that is why they are sometimes overcome by emotions concerning the problems, forms, and methods the government employs.

First of all, I would like to say that emotions seem to be inevitable in such discussions, especially considering such an issue of great importance not only for the government but, I believe, also for the rest of us, the country, and the Russian people. But despite the emotion, I have understood that first of all we must interact. There are both reasons and the desire to interact.

Naturally, today I cannot and would not like ... [pauses] But perhaps I am seething at heart in certain respects, especially when I hear personal accusations to the effect that I have no idea about something, that I am unable or do not know something, or when, on behalf of all the directors, a factory director starts here to hold up to shame or criticize Chernomyrdin, I take it as being not quite proper.

I can approach these matters from a completely different angle and explain what the corps of directors is doing today and how they are doing it, what needs and what does not need to be done. This can be another subject of our conversation today. But I think we will have the time to talk about it, whatever the outcome of the vote might be today.

Vladimir Borisovich Isakov accused me today of painting everything in rosy colors. I wish to deny this accusation, esteemed Isakov. I want to deny it. I simply have not got the ability to paint everything in rosy colors. What I am and we are doing is too dear to me. I take the problems, the troubles and the sufferings too much to heart for me to want to paint a rosy picture.

Believe me, I think about these problems no less than you do, and I know as much about these problems as you do and understand them as well as you do. So I do not accept the accusations leveled against myself and the government.

The second, the third thing—I understand that today there are a lot of criticisms. Much remains to finished. There are things I have already spoken of and do not need to repeat. But let's be clear about what we want. If today, in October, at the end of October 1994, we are holding a discussion on whether or not to submit ... [pauses] We have submitted a plan, a conception, a policy for 1995. I think that is a good subject and we have time to discuss, find our position—yes, Grigoriy Alekseyevich [Yavlinskiy]—find our position today along with specialists and economists and with directors and responsible deputies, find our position as to how and where to proceed, how and according to which method. I think we will have enough time.

For the first time in Russian history, a government has made a proposal like this. There are grounds for criticism. There is matter for discussion. But perhaps we will do this work together and we will think about how not just to build our relations, but also how to row our way out of this situation.

Fourth, I cannot fail to speak here about the remarks by deputies—the heads of committees—who talked about security and the Armed Forces. I did not touch on this issue, and I believe that this is also a subject for special discussion. I would just like to ask: Why this disrespect? I do not mean disrespect for me, Chernomyrdin, but for the Army. How come you, some of you, are taking on the responsibility of scrubbing everything out at a stroke like this?

How can I to explain to you in a way that you can understand that we do not need so many weapons nowadays? After all, it was you who said here today that our ammunition dumps are blowing up. But I can tell you something else. Our dumps are overflowing with military-type weapons. That is the first thing. I'll tell you about their sale in a moment. [voices heard in hall]

I am not just talking about ammunition, I am talking about weapons. Voices are being heard here, and you keep telling me and the government that the market is operating, that we are being pushed out of the market, that we should trade. We have not been trading. We have been giving away weapons, giving them away. We have a debt of 160 billion [currency not specified] and we are now responsible for this debt, and it is chiefly because of weapons.

What kind of trade? What kind of trade? Trade must be organized. As to Glazyev, we spoke with him for a long time yesterday, with Sergey Yuriyevich on this subject. He was responsible for this problem, as minister, as first deputy minister, for organizing this market, for foreign economic matters. Well, why won't you say it here, as a former minister-specialist, who knows this work?

I don't want... [pauses] I am not accusing Glazyev or anyone else. I am turning to you and I want to say this. We have not retreated. We will break through to this market. It is costing us a huge amount of work to break through to it, but we will break through. We have the tools to do it, and we will break through. [end recording]

[Announcer] That was an excerpt from the speech by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the head of the government. They

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were his closing words at the State Duma session which is debating a motion of no- confidence in the government. This was a direct link-up from the hall of the State Duma, and we are continuing our Panorama program.

Chernomyrdin Addresses State Duma

LD2710234894 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2030 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Address by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to the State Duma on 27 October—from the unscheduled program "Debates"; recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] Esteemed Chairman, esteemed State Duma deputies: I regard the raising of the issue of confidence in the government at this Duma sitting in two ways. On the one hand it is a reflection of the crises that the Russian economy is going through. On the other it shows that we have truly reached a fundamental point in the course of reforms. Decisions have been taken, on which the entire future development of our country directly depends.

The slump in industrial output over the not yet complete first 10 months of this year has been 21 percent compared with the corresponding period last year. The reluctance for a number of years now to invest is threatening to devour the national wealth. A shortage of financial resources is producing incomplete funding in science, the social sphere, and the Armed Forces. The economy is being strangled by nonpayments. Unemployment is still rising, albeit at a relatively low rate. Although the standard of living figures are on average getting more stable, they have of late been accompanied by a considerable differentiation in incomes and material provision.

Not everything, of course, can or should be put down to objective reasons. We do not divest ourselves of the responsibility for the impermissible pay arrears, the systematic underfunding of a number of sectors in the economy and the social sphere, and the impulsive injection of new money into the economy. There has been too little objective analysis of the state of affairs at enterprises and in the regions. For a long time proper attention has not been given to the problem of nonpayments. The state apparatus continues to be slow and weak in its adaptation to the new market conditions. All of this includes too our own miscalculations and mistakes. However difficult it might be, we must draw the conclusion that the moderately tough financial policy that has been pursued up to now has in effect exhausted its potential. It is necessary to adjust our course and make the next decisive move.

The government has made its choice. It is precisely this choice that is reflected in the documents presented by the government to the State Duma—the draft budgets and the forecasts for 1995, the concept of the government's medium-term program for 1995-1997.

We consider that no attempts to achieve an improvement in the economy by going along the paths of weakening the financial and credit policy and making concessions in the fight against inflation will meet with success. Unless we avoid this it will not be possible to resolve the most important problems of Russia's economic development—raising investment, resumption of the increase in production, improving the standard of living and work of our citizens.

An analysis of the state of the economy shows that we cannot achieve this in the situation we are living in today even if we hold down inflation throughout the whole of 1995 to the five percent expected in December this year. If we are serious in our desire for a reliable stabilization of production and the resumption of economic growth in the next one and a half to two years, then we are obliged to ensure, before the end of 1995, that the monthly level of inflation does not exceed one and a half to two percent.

This requires very strict economies in all—and I stress—in all areas of budget expenditure. I understand very well that I am saying some unpleasant things today. But this is precisely how things are. The only realistic budget is one that facilitates the speeding up of the transformations, one which, in the direct meaning of the words, gets enterprises, regions, and in effect the whole of society moving again.

The purpose of the budget intention is to create a healthy environment for reforms, to create a good climate for them, to impose, if you will, strict market discipline. I will even say that during the transitional period the only realistic budget is one that closes off all the roads back to the swamp of depression.

Esteemed deputies, what is the main content of what we are going to do? The essence of the budget and the budgetary policy for 1995 is not simply to survive, not simply to economize, not only to be in debt to the population. The main thing is to create the preconditions for economic upsurge, for future growth, and this, as calculations show, can be achieved in the next two to three years.

The 1995 economic policy is the start of the implementation of the medium-term strategy, which we define in the government's program for 1995-1997. The aims of this program are primarily to ensure a rise in the standard of living of the people of Russia, to achieve a reliable stabilization of the general upsurge of production, and to resume economic growth.

It is precisely for this aim that we are working by ensuring macroeconomic stabilization and creating favorable conditions to raise investment activity and to deepen reforms at the level of sectors of industry and enterprises and to intensify institutional and structural restructuring.

Finally, there is one more component of the medium-term program. We can achieve great successes in budget

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and investment policy. But all of our efforts will be in vain if we do not resolve the problem of creating a strong state that ensures the defense of the rights of the individual and private property.

Urges Duma To Cooperate

LD2710174694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1650 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin urged the State Duma to cooperate with the cabinet on Thursday [27 October].

In his final word after the debate on his report the prime minister said the government is open for cooperation with all political force that are ready to work with it on the program of action for 1995-1997, in resolving all problems and deepening reforms.

The prime minister turned down the claims made during the debate that the government sees everything in rosy tones. "I do not accept such claims personally or with regard to the cabinet," he said.

On the calls for a presidential report to the Duma Chernomyrdin declared: "I would not want to shift part of my work on to the president. I ask you to assess the performance of the cabinet and remember that the solution of problems facing Russia depends on our cooperation."

He described as disrespectful many complaints of deputies about the armed forces and the security system. Chernomyrdin called for a proper understanding of the question of arms production and trade. "We do not need more armaments, our storehouses are packed with them. In the past we used to give away arms, not sell them. It is not a question of losing international arms markets. We will only be making our way to them," Chernomyrdin said.

Answers Deputies' Questions

LD2710232294 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2030 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Question and answer session with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and Russian State Duma deputies in Moscow on 27 October; individual deputies not identified—from the unscheduled program "Debates"; recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Deputy] Why does no one resign and face responsibility for the crimes that are being committed every day and every hour in this country? Can you please answer this question, Viktor Stepanovich? Thank you.

[Chernomyrdin] As I was preparing for my speech at the Duma today, I noticed that this was the first time that I was going to start by talking about our shortcomings, our difficulties, our problems, the things which we have failed to do or have not had enough time to do—yes, indeed, in many cases which we failed to achieve. We must act, but we must act jointly, as one team.

[Deputy] How many enterprises were halted in Russia in 1994, i.e. this year—10,000 or perhaps 20,000—exactly how many? Also, one more question. How is the government planning to avoid at least these three negative processes: The decay of the economic structures, the rapid decrease in the competitiveness of the Russian products and the squandering of Russia's resources; and finally, the disintegration of cooperation ties and technological links in our economy? Thank you.

[Chernomyrdin] I am ready to discuss the last three questions that you have asked me—in concrete terms but not here. I am ready to talk about this. All our proposals today, the entire program we are putting forward today, all that we are submitting for discussion here—all these things are aimed at resolving these questions of yours.

[Deputy] What about the former republics...

[Chernomyrdin, interrupting] Well, we will discuss these things together. Incidentally, the program proposed by you will also be taken into consideration. Second, I cannot tell you exactly how many enterprises have been stopped but I can ask for this information to be prepared.

[Unidentified voice] In the nine months of this year, 4,400 enterprises have been halted. Five hundred enterprises have been stopped altogether. Losses have totalled 14 days per capita.

[Deputy] Have you a moral right as a Russian citizen to head Russia's government?

[Chernomyrdin] Yes, I have. [applause]

[Deputy] Please give me a concrete answer: First, how many officials have been dismissed since you became head of government? Second, our president has become like some distant sound of footsteps behind the stage. Today, when a most important issue is being resolved, we do not know the president's opinion. Probably you know it. You have surely had a telephone conversation with Boris Nikolayevich before the sitting of the State Duma. What did he say to you?

[Chernomyrdin] The reporter will never die in this man. Perhaps it would be better for you not to know the president's opinion.

[Deputy] Could you please say...[pauses] Nonpayments depend on the federal budget and on you, Viktor Stepanovich. How could this happen? Are there any measures or deadlines for eliminating the arrears in the payment of salaries to the workers in the social sphere? Thank you.

[Chernomyrdin] I will be honest with you. Of course, the government is to blame for this in the first place, of course, it is to blame. As for the reasons for this, well, what can I tell you, you know them perfectly well. But I can tell you the following: On 1 October our debt was 2

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trillion [rubles] while at present it is 1.2 trillion rubles. We have just drawn up measures—all government members are present here now—and by the end of the year we will entirely eliminate the debt.

[Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin] Could the microphone in the presidium be switched on for Aleksandr Dmitriyevich Vengerovskiy? He made an ultimatum to me: either a question or the post of deputy prime minister. I am going for the lesser evil, the question.

[Vengerovskiy] Ivan Petrovich is in a very humorous mood today. I am in a more serious mood. Viktor Stepanovich, big changes are certainly taking place in our country. In his day Mikhail Sergeyevich [Gorbachev] was saying that we needed more socialism. You know what came out of that. Could you please say what sociopolitical system we have at present, and where we are moving as a result of all those things you have just told us about? Thank you.

[Rybkin] I expressed the demand by Aleksandr Dmitriyevich [Vengerovskiy] accurately, no joke.

[Chernomyrdin] I can tell you one thing for sure: We are not building socialism and we are not moving toward communism.

Duma Plans Resolution on Chernomyrdin Report

LD2810091794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0857 GMT 28 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—After the government survived a no-confidence vote in the State Duma on Thursday [27 October], the lower chamber decided to adopt a resolution on the report of Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin in which he outlined the 1995 draft budget and plans for the upcoming three years.

Lawmakers decided on Friday that the discussion of the report was not enough and insisted that the parliament has to give an official assessment of the government work and plans.

The motion was initiated by communists and agrarians and 244 deputies voted in favour of it.

The Committee on the Organisation of Duma Work was instructed to prepare a draft resolution on the basis of the five-page analytical report which had already been prepared and includes remarks and criticisms voiced during Thursday discussion.

Speaker Ivan Rybkin said that the remarks and proposals would be forwarded to the premier and the president.

Duma Discusses Grachev, Clinton Address, Latvia

LD2810104494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1020 GMT 28 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev will have to deliver a report to the State Duma after Defence Minister Pavel Grachev and Interior Minister Viktor Yerin. The lower house of the Russian Parliament adopted this decision today. The motion was tabled by Andrey Dorovskikh, representative of the Liberal-Democratic Party faction, who claimed that the Russian Foreign Ministry was much too passive in upholding the rights of Russian citizens travelling abroad. The mp referred to reports on the manhandling of five Russian citizens in Poland, published in local newspapers the day before.

The Duma approved the motion of Aleksandr Vengerovskiy, another representative of the Liberal-Democratic faction, to instruct three of its committees—on defence, security, and geopolitical problems—to analyse U.S. President Bill Clinton's message to the Congress, relating to the U.S. national security strategy, and to present its conclusions. In tabling this motion, Vengerovskiy did not disclose his attitude to Clinton's message.

The Committee for Security and International Affairs was instructed to examine the Latvian Parliament's decision on the legal status of that country's Russian-speaking population.

Press Officer Says Duma Debate 'Heated'

LD2710144494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1428 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadyiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The tone of debating chosen by deputies of the State Duma made for a heated debate on confidence in the government that is not conducive to a constructive dialogue between legislators and the cabinet of ministers, Valentin Sergeyev, chief of the government's press service, said in an interview to ITAR-TASS.

The government and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin are prepared to discuss even the most radical proposals of deputies, but the opportunity to resolve problems that accumulated in the Russian economy has actually been lost, Sergeyev said.

Zyuganov Demands Change of Governmental Course

LD2710141794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1351 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Gennadiy Zyuganov said that it was "extraordinary" that President Boris Yeltsin stayed away from a meeting of the State Duma today. The leader of communists in the lower house of parliament demanded the change of course and named the figures who can from a new cabinet. The list of 15 is topped by Petr Romanov,

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member of the Federation Council, and includes Aman Tuleyev, Sergey Glazyev, Aleksandr Nazarchuk, Viktor Ilyukhin, Ramazan Abdulatipov, Sergey Baburin.

Zyuganov described the system existing in Russia at present as "the rule of embezzlers" and said that the country can be likened to a time bomb. He said that Russia is encircled with rimlands of instability and has no allies. "There will be a collapse by spring", Zyuganov said.

He proposed to deputies to invite the president to the State Duma and ask him if he can "suggest anything new". Urging deputies to pass a vote of non-confidence in the present government, Zyuganov said that a new cabinet should include people "with national orientation and national thinking".

Regional Affairs

Ministry Calls Oil Spill 'Extremely Dangerous'

MM2710201594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Sergey Leskov: "Nature Itself Hampers the Commission From Determining the Scale of the Ecological Disaster in Komi"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ministry for Emergency Situations has reported that this department's specialists cannot reach the region of the oil pipeline disaster near Usinsk because of weather conditions, and are stuck in Syktyvkar. The Ministry for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources [Minpriroda] confirms that its specialists, together with experts from the Roskomvod [expansion unknown], the Roskomgidromet [the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring], and the Roskomrybolovstvo [the Russian Federation Committee for Fishing] have also been forced to work with just documentation from Syktyvkar and are waiting for a plane to Usinsk.

The dearth of information from the not easily accessible region is giving rise to contradictory figures on the scale of the disaster. The Republic of Komi Minpriroda maintains that 14,033 tonnes of oil have leaked from the pipeline. The Republic of Komi's local civil defense staff increases this amount to 30,000 tonnes. According to the data of the Roskomgidromet, there are as much as 60,000 tonnes spilled on the ground. While U.S. sources cite a figure of 300,000 tonnes. The last figure provokes the indignation of all the Russian departments involved in the disaster. The suspicion is gradually being voiced that, by exaggerating the consequences of the industrial catastrophe, the Americans want to firmly establish their position in the exploitation of the natural resources of the Russian Far North.

It is hard to say whether or not this is so, but the prime cause of the furor is, without a doubt, our old and incurable illness—the cover-up, by departments, of information that is dangerous to them, their reluctance and inability to talk honestly with the public. The congenital bureaucratic secrecy is injurious to the departments themselves and leads to seesaw changes in the figures and scale of pollution. Of all the state structures, according to my observations, only the Ministry for Atomic Energy is today distinguished by proper openness and promptness of response. But, God forbid that anyone should learn the hard way, as did the Ministry for Atomic Energy...

IZVESTIYA's correspondent managed to speak to the leader of the state commission, Yevgeniy Khaylov, who is still taciturn and extremely cautious in his appraisals. From his words it is possible to conclude that alarm over the incident is being sounded loudest by Nenetsk Autonomous Okrug Administration, which, incidentally, reports the largest Russian figure for the oil spill—more than 60,000 tonnes.

According to the most recent information, the level of pollution in the Pechora does not yet exceed the maximum permissible concentration, but at the point where the Usa flows into it the level of pollution already is already twice or three times the maximum permissible concentration. There is no oil slick on the Pechora, but an oil patch of up to 10 km long and 3 meters wide can be seen on the Usa. Oil patches on the river Kolva are also distinguished by their great size.

According to Russian standards, a level of oil pollution 30 times greater than the maximum permissible concentration is dangerous to the environment. At the most serious period of the disaster pollution on the Kolva reached a level of 20 times the maximum permissible concentration. The worst (and so far not evaulated) pollution affected the Pechora swamps, and there is a danger that in the spring petroleum products which have accumulated there will be swept into the northern rivers by the spring waters. But so far the Roskomgidromet post 300 km from the scene of the disaster has not found traces of pollution in the tundra.

Minpriroda's official report assesses the disaster as environmentally extremely dangerous. Some independent experts doubt whether it will be possible in the tundra's fragile natural conditions to avert the wholesale pollution of the Pechora, the Barents Sea, and nearby regions of the Arctic. However, the position of the official departments is more restrained, and practically no doubts are being voiced as to the possibility of localizing the disaster.

Comments on Ecological Threat

LD2710153794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1509 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian Environment and Mineral Resources Protection Ministry believes the rupture of an oil pipeline in the Komi Republic poses a real

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ecological danger and will do everything to remedy the situation, a ministry press release made available to INTERFAX Thursday says.

According to the ministry, the leak was detected on August 23. Areas of size 300 by 400 meters were polluted and the oil layer ranged from three to 40 centimeters. Before September 14 a total of 14,033 tonnes of oil leaked.

Experts of the Komi Environment Protection Ministry took part in the investigation and planning the ways to deal with the effects of the disaster, in particular collection and utilization of oil and construction of four dams in small rivers.

Oil slicks one kilometer long were observed in the Kolva River at the end of September and early in October when the dams broke down after torrential rains. Three meter wide patches were observed on the banks of the Usa, a tributary of the Pechora.

Once the Russian Environment Protection Ministry heard from the Nenets Autonomous Area authorities that a total of 60,000 tonnes of oil had poured from the pipelines, a team of experts from the ministry and Water Supply, Weather and Fishery Committees and the Emergencies Ministry were sent there to estimate the scale of the disaster and sufficiency of the measures taken to deal with it.

The team reached Usinsk late on October 26.

According to the ministry, the oil pollution of the Pechora stayed within the maximum allowable concentration and only in the mouth of the Usa it was two to three times that concentration. There was no oil film.

The Komi government estimated the damage at 60 billion rubles, an equivalent of $19.76 million.

This estimate is at variance with the data reported by certain western sources which describe the event as a major disaster, say that as much as 300,000 tonnes of oil escaped and that over $100 million will be needed to deal with the effects of the leak.

Meanwhile, the Komi civil defense chief Anatoly Nuikin denied in an INTERFAX interview the reports of an ecological emergency around the town of Usinsk. He said that the effects of the leak had been dealt with and work was nearing completion.

Nuikin emphasized that no oil would reach the Pechora or the Barents Sea. He admitted, however, that repair activities could not start before the frosts set in and could not be completed before April 1, 1995.

Spill 'Under Control'

LD2810103094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2040 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow, 27 Oct—By 1 December this year, the Komineft [Komi Oil] joint-stock company is to replace 52 kilometers of worn-out pipeline in the Komi Republic's Usinsk area, where an accident occurred in August allowing spillage of up to 30,000 tons of petroleum products. Komineft, which owns the oil pipeline, intends to completely eliminate the aftermath of the accident by 1 April 1995.

The press service of the Ministry of Emergencies and Natural Disasters told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that a telegram they received today from Bibikov, deputy head of the Komi Republic government, reported that "the situation in the accident area is under control. The measures being adopted are adequate, and no help is required from Russia's Ministry of Emergencies or the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources." [passage omitted]

According to the Hydrometeorological Service's northern directorate, as of 20 October there had been no sightings of oil slicks in the vicinity of the village of Ust-Tsilma on the Pechora River, and the content of petroleum products in the water was below the maximum permitted concentration.

However, an ITAR-TASS correspondent found out from reliable sources that Russia's Emergencies Ministry thinks the local authorities' accident reports are incomplete and understated. ITAR- TASS also learned that the Emergencies Ministry Minister Sergey Shoygu has sent a letter to Russian Environment Minister Viktor Danilov-Danilyan pointing out that "the republican and territorial structures of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Disasters must step up their monitoring of the situation in the localities." Sergey Shoygu thinks it intolerable that the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, signed by Russia in 1992, has been discredited before it had come into force.

Komi Will Clear Spill 'by April 1995'

LD2710161994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1539 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Valeriy Sevryukov and Vladimir Suprun]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Aftermaths of the spilling of tens of thousands of oil because of a leak in an oil pipeline near the town of Usinsk, in Russia's republic of Komi, will be abolished by April 1995, a news conference in the Foreign Ministry press centre was told by Aleksandr Shuvalov.

Shuvalov, an official of the Russian Ministry for Environment and Natural Resources, said the situation in the disaster area remained dangerous yet controlled. Cleanup operations prevented the oil from getting into the delta of the Pechora River.

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The ministerial spokesman admitted, however, that measures undertaken to manage the disaster were "inadequate" for the current situation.

Expert Says Accident 'Not Unusual'

BR2710165194 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 27 Oct 94 p 7

[Report by Jan Blomgren: "Unclear Picture of Oil Leak"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow—The local authorities tried yesterday to play down the effects of the oil spill near the Russian town of Usinsk 300 kilometers south of the Arctic Ocean.

There are also highly contradictory reports about how much oil has leaked out. Officials at the Environment Ministry in Moscow flew to the area yesterday to investigate how great the damage actually is. It was also revealed that the Komineft company which runs the pipeline had tried to conceal the leak.

A Russian expert confirmed to SVENSKA DAGBLADET that this type of accident is not unsual.

"It was no concidence where the accident happened. On the other hand it was a coincidence that it came to the knowledge of the general public. If a U.S. newspaper had not raised the alarm the snow, which will arrive in a few weeks' time, would have covered up the problem," said Grigoriy Tertizkiy, who has worked at the Geographic Institute in Moscow for the last 15 years and who has traveled around the coutnry studying environmental issues.

"Leaks in pipelines occur daily, but of course they are of different sizes. If as much as 300,000 tons of oil has leaked out in the present case—something for which I cannot vouch—I believe nevertheless that similar catastrophes have happened before. The difference is that hardly anyone got to know about them," Grigoriy Tertizkiy said.

For six years Tertizkiy himself has been traveling through northern Siberia and he speaks of leaks every year on the scale of 3 to 10 million tons of oil.

"But I am not sure that the oil is the major problem," he said. "You can always see the oil; things are more difficult after accidents involving gas." [passage omitted]

Grigoriy Tertizkiy spoke of several reasons for today's catastrophic situation.

The first is that the work 20 or 30 years ago was carried out badly. Where one Japanese inspector failed 80 percent of the welding work, the Russian inspector was only able to fail 5 percent. And it was this latter figure on which action was taken.

Another factor is today's shortage of money—something which has an effect on labor and other resources. Pipelines are located in great unpopulated tundras and have to be checked on by aircraft. There are helicopters, but not always the money for fuel. And suspended wage payments—sometimes lasting up to six months—also have a clear effect on workers' morale. [passage omitted]

"There is a clear risk that leaked oil has already reached the Barents Sea. And what there is on the ground will accompany the snow into the rivers in the spring," said Grigoriy Tertizkiy who does not think that this accident will mean any changes for the better.

"Quite simply the resources are not there. And in addition we Russians do not have the same mentality and approach when it comes to the environment and the protection of nature as you in the West," he said. [passage omitted]

Sabirov Wants Oil Tanker Fleet

MK2710134094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "Provincial Chronicle" rubric]

[FBIS Translated Text] Kazan—Republic Prime Minister Mukhammat Sabirov has stated that there is no alternative to the government decision on the creation of a national tanker fleet. Even in conditions of the financial shortfall the republic's leadership intends to support in every way the M. Gorkiy Factory in Zelenodolsk, which is building the first vessel of a Tatar oil tanker fleet.

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International Affairs

Officials on IMF Credit Approval

LD2710211094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1841 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev October 27 TASS—The Ukrainian authorities consider the first IMF credit to Ukraine to be its recognition as an equal partner of the international community, Ukrainian Vice-Premier Igor Mityukov told a briefing here today.

The IMF heads approved the issuance of the 371 million dollar credit on Wednesday. The credit will be used for structural transformation of the ukrainian economy.

In the words of Mityukov, the bold program of radical economic reforms has been approved by both international fiscal organizations and governments of the G-7. "Ukraine will use the IMF credit efficiently and rationally. It will be used to cover the deficit of the payment balance and critical imports," said the vice-premier.

Ukraine has developed a scheme of the credit use. The money will be exchanged to the national currency and partially cover the budget deficit. "The lowered pressure on the budget will boost structural reorganization of the economy," said Mityukov. In his opinion, the budget deficit will not exceed ten per cent by the end of this year, and this corresponds to conditions set by international fiscal organizations that are helping Ukraine.

Leadership Favors Repayment of Soviet Debts

LD2610132294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1146 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Members of the Ukrainian parliament's commission on finances and bank activity and representatives of the Cabinet of Ministers and the presidential administration did not give their backing to the draft of the parliamentary resolution providing for a rejection of zero options in the distribution of debts and assets of the former USSR, chairman of the parliamentary commission on finances and bank activity Viktor Suslov told Interfax-Ukraine.

The draft parliamentary resolution prepared by leader of the Center parliamentary faction Anton Buteyko was considered at the sitting of this commission attended by representatives of Ukraine's government and presidential administration.

According to Suslov, the draft provided for cancelling of the so called zero option as "it does not meet Ukraine's national interests" and foresaw transfer of the case on division of debts and assets of the former USSR to the International Court.

"We must and we shall have to give back debts of the former USSR," Suslov said. At the same time he said that the debts of the former USSR on the part of the former socialist countries substantially exceed the debts of the Soviet Union. However, the return of "socialist" debts is practically "a hopeless affair," Suslov noted.

He said Ukraine's parliament "must adopt an appropriate resolution in order to finally solve this issue." He believes that the Ukrainian president can and must submit this issue to the parliament for consideration.

The zero option for the division of the debts and assets of the former USSR provides for the transfer of Ukraine's property and assets abroad to Russia in exchange for the payment of the Ukrainian part of the debt by Russia.

In the course of the Ukrainian-Russian negotiations in 1992 the parties failed to sign an agreement on the division of debts and assets of the former USSR. However, under their mutual agreement Russia services the Ukrainian debt using the Ukrainian part of assets and buildings which belonged to the USSR.

Earlier Ukraine's Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol spoke in favor of the zero option saying that in an adverse situation Russia would be forced to pay about $700 million annually in order to pay off the debts of the former USSR. In his words, Russia has already paid off $1.7 billion of the Ukrainian part of the debts.

The Ukrainian part in debts and assets of the former Soviet Union amounts to 16.37 percent.

Russia Accepts Kiev Proposal on Black Sea Fleet

LD2710213394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1707 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vice-Premier Yevgeniy Marchuk speaking in Simferopol late on Wednesday said Russia had accepted Kiev's proposal for cooperation between the Ukrainian and Russian navies in the Black Sea at the recent round of talks in Kiev.

Marchuk leads a government delegation instructed to examine Crimea's need in extra economic assistance.

He spoke of understanding being reached on the need to shift away from a sharing out of the Black Sea Fleet [BSF] to cooperation between the two navies.

The defence ministries on both sides were instructed to produce an appropriate cooperation machinery.

Marchuk also called for continuity in the negotiating process regardless of a government change. "We would not be serious partners if we kept renouncing what has been done by the previous administrations", he stressed.

At the same time, Marchuk said that separate statements from negotiators on both sides must be taken only as an expression of personal views.

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Defense Minister on Cooperation With Canada

LD2710151394 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] As reported from Toronto, Canada by UKRINFORM's special correspondent on 26 October, Ukraine's Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov has said that Ukraine's military cooperation with Canada is aimed at participation in peacekeeping missions.

In an interview with UKRINFORM's correspondent, Mr. Shmarov said that the agreement on military cooperation signed between Ukraine and Canada and a memorandum on the agreement's practical realization provided for training Canadian soldiers in Ukraine and Ukrainian soldiers in Canada, mutual exchange of useful information, and Ukrainian-Canadian measures aimed at guaranteeing peace in their respective regions and the world as a whole. This, according to the minister, is of great importance to Ukraine today.

Mr. Shmarov signed the above-mentioned document on behalf of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, who is on a five-day visit to Canada.

On perspectives of partnership between Ukraine and Canada in space exploration, Mr. Shmarov noted that although Canada does not have a rocket-launching pad and satellite carriers, it is an authority in space technology, especially in the manufacture of different types of satellites.

During our talks with the leadership of Canada's space agency, we earmarked a series of areas where we could cooperate. Among such areas are space scientific research and creation and use of satellites for monitoring the Earth's surface, said Mr. Shmarov.

Possibilities of using Ukraine's rocket carrier Zenit and its modification Zenit 3 and Tsyklon for hauling space satellites into orbit were raised. According to the Ukrainian defense minister, possibilities of future conversion of Ukraine's strategic rocket carriers, which are to be reduced in accordance with the START 1 agreement, were also examined.

Security Service on Russian Border 'Incident'

WS2710102094 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 25 Oct 94 p 2

[Statement attributed to the chiefs of the Chernihiv Oblast Directorate of Ukraine's Security Service and the Bryansk Oblast Directorate of Russia's Federal Counterintelligence Service; place and date not given: "Special Services Explain"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The press center of Ukraine's Security Service has disseminated a statement by the chiefs of the Chernihiv Oblast Directorate of Ukraine's Security Service and the Bryansk Oblast Directorate of Russia's Federal Counterintelligence Service, which, in particular, states:

"On 21 October 1994, ITAR-TASS reported about an incident along the Ukrainian-Russian border, which allegedly reached the point of provoking an armed conflict between workers of Ukraine's Security Service and representatives of Russian law-enforcement officers.

"In reality, events developed in the following way.

"On the night of 19 October 1994, a subunit of the Chernihiv Oblast Directorate of Ukraine's Security Service for combating organized crime and corruption conducted an operation to check operational data pertaining to racketeering and legal violations at the Novgorod-Siverska Customs House. For this purpose, Security Service officials interrogated truck drivers who had already passed customs control and were in the no-man's zone between the Ukrainian and Russian custom checkpoints at the village of Mykolayivka in Semenivsk Rayon of Chernihiv Oblast. The drivers, with whom such interviews were held, upon reaching the Russian border checkpoint, told Russian militiamen that there were armed people checking motor vehicles along the road, and voiced their doubt as to whether or not they were really Ukrainian Security Service agents.

"A Russian militia officer, armed with a submachine-gun, set out to inspect the area indicated by the drivers. It is understood that he was on alert, but the incident calmed as soon as he identified himself.

"It should be noted that the border between Ukraine and Russia at that site is not clearly marked. In addition, the events developed in the dark (at 0300 in the morning), therefore, as it turned out later, the Security Service special subunit was in fact several hundreds meters inside Russian territory.

"In view of the above-mentioned occurrence, and to prevent any such situations from occurring in the future, we have agreed that our special services will inform each other about similar operations conducted near the border.

"It should be stressed that we closely adhere to the agreements concluded between our special services and conduct many operations jointly, achieving concrete results. We are confident that the above-mentioned incident will not affect our partner-like mutual relations and businesslike cooperation."

National Affairs

Official Outlines Power Structure Changes

LD2810111694 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Zhitomir—Volodymyr Hrynyov, presidential adviser for regional issues and co-chairman

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of the Interregional Bloc of Reforms, visited here 26 October and met with representatives of the local branch of the Constitutional Democratic Party, addressed the directorial corps and entrepreneurs. He also visited a porcelain factory in Baranovka.

In his speeches, Volodymyr Hrynyov underlined that he considers a contribution by Ukraine's regions to be decisive in support for the president's reform program, as it is precisely in the regions that some of the most radical changes in economic and social life are now to take place.

Volodymyr Hrynyov further said that a group of experts he leads is about to complete work on a draft of the Ukraine law "on authorities," which the president will submit for the Supreme Council's consideration no later than mid-November. The draft makes provision for serious changes to Ukraine's state structure. The Supreme Council, in particular, will perform purely legislative functions. The appointment of the government and the prime minister will be made by the president, while the Supreme Council will only approve a program presented by the government. Under the draft, according to Volodymyr Hrynyov, the president will have the right to dissolve parliament, and the parliament, in turn, will hold the right of impeachment. The function of the Cabinet of Ministers will also undergo change.

Volodymyr Hrynyov added that the details of the law are still being finalized.

Asked by a UNIAN correspondent on the probability of this law's approval by the Supreme Council, Volodymyr Hrynyov said that the parliament's attitude toward it might be negative. Then, however, a Ukrainian-wide referendum would have to be held. "We will not make a single step of progress toward reform without reorganizing every branch of power," he said, adding that he personally favors a presidential republic, but it is possible that a presidential parliamentary republic might be optimal for Ukraine in the post- totalitarian period.

New-Style Communist Party Reasserts Itself

MM2710131794 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Olga Musafirova: "It Emerges That Communists Aren't Guilty of Anything"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—As we know, the Ukrainian Supreme Council has repealed the law of August 1991, having recognized that the Communist Party is not guilty of anything. Further, the business is already a thing of the past. Back before the parliamentary elections the Justice Ministry registered the new-style Communist Party, which, its leaders asserted, had nothing in common with its predecessor, which was totally disgraced, as it was, by gulags, famines, and putsches.

The move turned out to be strategically popular. The "New Reds" gained a majority of seats in parliament: Every fifth deputy is a communist.

The leaders of the Communist Party of Ukraine were quick to assure that the party was not claiming anything other than the people's confidence. But it is not hard to predict that in the near future they will assertively submit for discussion the question of the party's property and money: If they are not guilty, it should be returned to them! Then President Leonid Kuchma will have to leave his residence, surrendering his office to Central Committee First Secretary Petro Simonenko. After all, the presidential chambers are the former building of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee!

Clearly, these people who have had their rights restored will be taking an altogether stern line with the new president. They are calling for Leonid Kravchuk to put on trial; and for the moment they are seeking a friendly chat with Kuchma insofar as he is not living up to people's expectations. The parliamentary majority does not like the overly capitalist intentions to introduce private ownership of land, actively reform the finance and credit system, and so on, which were announced by the president recently in his report-cum-message to the Supreme Council.

Lugansk Oblast Makes Russian Official Language

LD2710222594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1805 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Lugansk—The Lugansk Oblast Council session today passed a resolution granting the Russian language official status in the region. The opening of the session was picketed by Communists and the region's democratic forces.

A number of Oblast Council deputies proposed a referendum on Ukraine's symbols as, in their view, those recognized at present are the symbols used by OUN-UPA [Organization of Ukrainian Nationalist - Ukrainian Insurgent Army] militants.

Crimean Council Fails To Decide on Constitution

LD2710234794 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2220 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol, 27 October—The Supreme Council of Crimea failed to make a final decision on the issue of bringing the Constitution of Crimea into line with the Constitution of Ukraine. Serhiy Tsekov, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Crimea, offered a draft which, he said, was coordinated with Kiev. It envisions the Republic of Crimea defined, in enforceable legislation, as a constituent autonomous part of Ukraine (all references to Crimea's statehood are rejected and Article 9 of the

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Constitution, which deals with the contractual relations between Crimea and Ukraine, remains unchanged).

At a closed sitting of Crimea's Supreme Council, the deputies held a parliamentary hearing in this connection. It is expected that the issue will be submitted to the plenary sitting on 2 November this year. To approve a positive decision on this issue at least 66 deputies should vote in its favour, which, in the opinion of the Supreme Council leadership, is scarcely probable with a view to the line-up of forces in the current parliament.

Deputy Prime Minister Views Fiscal Reform

WS2710160094 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 25 Oct 94 p 3

[Interview with Ihor Mityukov, deputy prime minister for financial issues; by Volodymyr Ilchenko; place and date not given: "We Must Change Ourselves"]

[FBIS Translated Text] **The office of deputy prime minister for financial issues is one of the key posts in our state. Financial stabilization is to play a leading role during the first stage of radical economic reforms envisioned by the Ukrainian president's program. It is supposed to open a path to structural reconstruction and consolidation of market rules in the Ukrainian economy.**

Our correspondent has interviewed Ihor Mityukov, deputy prime minister for financial issues.

[Ilchenko] **Ihor Oleksandrovych, first and foremost, how do you see your role as deputy prime minister for financial issues? After all, there has been no such post in our government before.**

[Mityukov] There is currently a shortage of cooperation between the government and the National Bank, which finances the state budget deficit. My primary task is to arrange the government's cooperation with the National Bank, as well as with the system of commercial banks, which can become an even more important creditor than the National Bank of Ukraine, since they grant credits in real money, and the Central Bank—by issuing money.

[Ilchenko] **An important role in macroeconomic stabilization is to be played by international financial organizations' loans. How will this money be used?**

[Mityukov] The IMF loans and the World Bank's rehabilitation credits are granted to finance the trade, payments, and budget deficits. It is important that this money be distributed among our importers not by directive methods, but through currency exchange—by selling it. It will be freely purchased for karbovanetses to finance imports. By selling hard currency, we can "pump out" oversupplies of the karbovanets and either deposit them in the National Bank to stabilize the circulation of money, or direct them to finance the budget deficit. Instead of requesting that the National Bank finance the budget deficit, the Ministry of Finance can obtain this money by selling hard currency.

The first half of the so-called STF—System Transformation Fund—is to arrive in November, and a part of the rehabilitation credit will probably arrive in the first quarter of the following year. This is, of course, not enough. We are expecting Western countries' credits granted on a bilateral basis as early as this year. Conditions for receiving these credits will be specified in each case separately.

[Ilchenko] **Have all the "pros" and "cons" of the program for macroeconomic stabilization to receive the STF been taken into account?**

[Mityukov] Of course, we must calculate how much Ukraine will pay for the introduction of such decisive steps. We must know all social and pricing consequences. These estimates are to be completed in the near future. Will we receive sufficient financial assistance, and will we be able to resolve all problems connected with these decisive economic measures? Financial assistance will make it possible to control the situation.

Western countries are waiting for an opportunity to move their capital to Ukraine. I am concerned over Ukraine's readiness to receive this capital. By the way, our financial system is not so bad. We are not lagging behind Russia. Another thing is that not everything was done correctly during last year; I have in mind the closing of the currency exchange. So, we should be ready to mobilize our entire financial system to receive foreign credits. It is not easy to make use of even $100 million, to include it in the country's budget and use it efficiently, not to mention higher sums.

[Ilchenko] **The Ukrainian currency exchange resumed its operations a few weeks ago. Has it met our expectations?**

[Mityukov] In the first place, there was no unanimity in the government regarding the need to reopen the Interbank Currency Exchange. I believe, however, that we have found a solution, drafted a plan for integrating the currency exchange into our currency market and replacing auctions with it. If the National Bank's steps are combined with certain measures taken by the government, I believe that the exchange will operate normally.

Our domestic currency market is very unstable. As a result of the decision to issue money for grain procurement in the third quarter of the year, there is a great number of unbacked karbovanetsi in circulation. I would like to point out, however, that this cannot be blamed on agricultural producers; we must improve the system of purchasing and financing agricultural production. You can see the situation with the dollar's exchange rate—it has jumped to an "alarming" level. People are more and more seldom using the services of trust funds, and commercial banks have lowered their interest rates, which were previously high enough and were "attracting" karbovanetsi. As a result of all these factors, a great amount of unbacked karbovanetsi has appeared in our market. To ensure normal servicing of the market, given

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the panicky demand for hard currency, we must change certain regulating levers and guarantee that hard currency is sold not to carry out illicit operations, but to purchase goods we really need. Let the Taxation Inspectorate audit each purchase of hard currency at the currency exchange, let it determine whether hard currency is used according to contracts presented to banks before the transaction takes place. Banks are not against this, since they are obliged to control hard currency operations.

You know that tender committees work in such a way, that the final purposes, for which all the hard currency they distribute is to be used, are examined by the Taxation Inspectorate. A presidential edict envisions substantial fines for inexpedient, meaning inefficient use of hard currency. The limits on using hard currency to purchase goods which are produced in Ukraine will be maintained. We should protect our market, all the more so, since our producers are in a difficult situation. Second, the currency exchange should "actively" work, from the National Bank's point of view, particularly, to intervene in hard currency and karbovanets' operations, so that we avoid violent fluctuations in the exchange rate. This year, the exchange rate has been either rising or falling, and this is inconvenient for everybody. If we consent to devalue the karbovanets, it should be predictable and smooth to prevent producers' losses and conditions favorable for hard currency profiteers. We also need them, but everything must remain within reasonable limits. The National Bank sent a wire defining the currency exchange's operations, and the Cabinet of Ministers added its remarks and recommendations.

[Ilchenko] **An important role in stabilizing finances and overcoming the crisis of payments is reserved by the presidential team for the circulation of bills of exchange. A presidential edict has been issued in this regard. Is Ukraine ready to implement it?**

[Mityukov] The edict must be implemented. The Ministry of Finances is facing an extremely important task to work on the implementation of presidential edicts.

In the fourth quarter of this year, additional emissions of money, according to the Supreme Council resolution, will be conducted by issuing short-term promissory notes from the Ministry of Finance. This is the direction in which we should move. Only in this way will we be able to restructure the domestic debt. Beginning with this, we can build a system of the state's financial policy, social safety net, and relations between the Ministry of Finance and the National Bank. The issuing of bonds is an extremely important issue. The Ministry of Finance is creating a source for financing the budget deficit, which is an alternative to the National Bank's decisions regarding money emissions. This direction should thus be supported and developed by all means.

[Ilchenko] **The possibility to increase the minimum wage is currently being discussed at all levels. What is your opinion about this issue.**

[Mityukov] I believe that we should abandon previous stereotypes. Increases in wages, indexation of working and capital stocks, and other centralized decisions are made only if it is really necessary. Increases in wages are necessary. The problem lies somewhere else, however. The point is not the indexation of wages as the primary way to resolve the contradictions between the interests of labor and capital. We must create a mechanism, which would make it possible to realistically assess our workforce. Unfortunately, the former policy led to an artificial decrease in the value of labor, because the prevention of increases in wages was used as the main factor regulating prices on the consumer market. As a result, the value of labor is horribly underestimated. The market should indicate its real value. Look at the difference between wages in the budget sector and commercial companies, which are operating in market conditions. I am not talking about brokerage companies, but large joint-stock and leased companies. People have high wages there, but they earn them. So, the main thing in a policy of remuneration for labor is not to set the minimum wage, which would protect society—the Ministry of Social Protection and appropriate welfare programs are to protect it—but to remove restrictions hampering workers' initiative. A state is rich if all of its people are rich.

Over the last two or three years, we have made many mistakes. The primary mistake is that we have run up bills for our children. We have squandered and wasted a lot of money, primarily, connected with energy resources, of which we are consuming more than we produce. We must pay for them. However, since we are not able to do that, our children will have to pay for them. We must bring an end to this squandering, since not only we but also those who give us goods on credit—people in countries to which we owe money for delivered products—are suffering from this. We must change ourselves.

National Bank Moves To Prevent Inflation

LD2710224794 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1805 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—The board of the National Bank of Ukraine has decided to maintain the money supply in economic circulation through the end of 1994 in a volume that will not cause an additional surge of inflation. The volume of the net domestic credit of the National Bank of Ukraine has been set for 1 January 1995 in the amount of 154 trillion karbovanetsi, including net credits to the government to the value of 141 trillion karbovanetsi.

The board also decided to freeze, as of 25 October, the refunding credits extended to commercial banks. In particular, it decided to establish credit limits for commercial banks by 31 December 1994 at the level which existed on 25 October, without further increasing credit investments. New credits may be extended and prolonged only through repayment of the previously granted

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credits. Commercial banks which exceed the credit limit will be fined in the amount of the illegally obtained income, in compliance with Article 48 of the law of Ukraine, "On banks and banking activity." Commercial banks are obliged to register any credit agreements concluded or prolonged as of 25 October and provide relevant data to the National Bank of Ukraine. Commercial banks can only receive refunds within the limits of the foreseen volume of net domestic credits of the National Bank of Ukraine by repayment of the earlier extended loans through credit auctions, in proportion to the capitals of the banks, with the bills of exchange discounted or retained as security.

It set, as of 25 October, monthly refunding of loans which will either be granted or prolonged after that date at the rate of 25 percent. On 10 November the percentage rate revises, taking into account current growth in prices. Payments for credits extended by the National Bank to commercial banks and the Government, will be made at a single discount rate to be approved by the National Bank of Ukraine for the relevant period.

In order to ensure reliable liquidity, commercial banks are obliged to abide by correspondence between the terms of granting credits and the terms of placing money on deposits; to extend the current norm of mandatory reservation over the currency deposited by commercial banks; to keep at least 20 percent of the clients' outstanding or refunded debts in karbovanetsi or currency on correspondent accounts, in addition to the sum of mandatory reserves, if no stricter measures are expected by the board of the National Bank of Ukraine; and to submit within a week proposals to the Government on developing the currency market structure and the rules of the currency exchange activity in new conditions.

Scientist on Result of Chernobyl Accident

LD2710214594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—Volodymyr Kryvtsov, candidate of technical sciences and director of the joint scientific and production firm "Mashynobudivnyk-M" [Machine Builder] on 27 October told a UNIAN correspondent about the completion by a group of scientists recently of work to analyze the mixture of a mass of uranium and other materials that formed as a result of the melting of nuclear fuel in the accident at Chernobyl's fourth generating set. The result of the work is that it is impossible to rule out the presence at the center of this mixture a zone qualitatively similar to "black holes" in space, which can emit nothing.

Kryvtsov said that nuclear transformation under way in the remainder of the fuel inevitably causes the emission of elementary particles which, however, cannot surmount the mixture's upper layer, whose thickness is in excess of a certain value estimated to be 16.7 centimeters. In this layer, the absorption of alpha, beta, and gamma particles and neutrons leads to an increase in the temperature in "the black hole." Given that the amount of thermal energy being diverted from the mass of fuel is insufficient, it is possible that conditions may arise for a nuclear thermal explosion. It is also possible that there may form and accumulate isotopes whose critical mass is small, such as, for example, californium, the amount of which for a nuclear explosion to occur need not exceed several grams. Although these explosions are considerably weaker than those of uranium, they cannot be disregarded.

Miners Continue Strike, Cite Government Inaction

WS2810102994 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 26 Oct 94 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Kryvyy Rih Miners on Strike"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As the Independent Trade Union of Ukrainian Coal Miners [NPH] has reported, a strike is in progress at 15 mines in Kryvyy Rih, the Mine Construction Administration and the Northern Ore Mining and Processing Enterprise. Miners are demanding that their pay be brought in line with consumer prices, limits on pensions be removed and that an agreement on wage scales be concluded between the union and the Ukrainian Ministry of Industry for 1995.

Although the strike was declared a long time ago, there was no reaction to the present situation on the part of the leadership, including the Ministry of Industry, the NPH believes. This is why the protest action will be continued until all of the miners' demands are met.

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Belarus

Lukashenka Rejects Yeltsin Proposal as 'Insult'

LD2710185794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1558 GMT 27 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 209 (699); compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov and Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has described as an insult President Boris Yeltsin's proposal for appointing the former Belarusian Prime Minister as chief of the CIS Inter-State Economic committee. Lukashenka was speaking at a session of the Cabinet in Minsk. President Yeltsin came out with that proposal at the CIS summit in Moscow on October 21. "The Belarusian people will neither understand nor accept such a move", Lukashenka said.

According to reliable sources Lukashenka's objection to Kebich's candidature "at the first stage had a certain effect on the climate of subsequent talks with the Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin." Sources say that the idea of nominating Kebich was prompted to Yeltsin by Viktor Chernomyrdin. They also say that Kebich and Chernomyrdin are personal friends.

Lukashenka said the outcome of the dialogue with the Russian Prime Minister was favorable. President Lukashenka said that in spite of everything Russia was and would be of the greatest importance to other CIS member-republics, in the first place, to Belarus. Lukashenka believes that the development of Belarus' ties with Russia and other CIS countries would promote a stronger CIS in general. President Lukashenka recalled the results of his meeting with the Uzbek President Islam Karimov in Moscow. They agreed on the supplies of cotton to Belarus and on Lukashenka's visit to Tashkent in the near future.

President Dismisses Four KGB Officials

WS2710140994 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1300 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] By order of the president of the Republic of Belarus, the following officials of the State Security Committee [KGB] of the Republic of Belarus have been dismissed: Uladzimir Alyaksandravich Matskevich, chief of the Minsk City and Oblast KGB Directorate; Henadz Syamyonavich Narkevich, chief of the Mogilev Oblast KGB Directorate; Mikalay Kanstantsinavich Rabchonak, chief of the Vitebsk Oblast KGB Directorate; and Leanid Dzmitryyevich Stsepanenka, chief of the Grodno Oblast KGB Directorate. All the aforementioned officials were relinquished to the Republic of Belarus KGB chairman.

Bank Chairman on 'Difficult' Moscow Talks

LD2710181294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1419 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] At the latest Commonwealth summit Belarus voiced hope for a postponement of payments on fuel imports from Russia.

The chairman of Belarus' National Bank Stanislav Bogdankevich told newsmen in Minsk on Wednesday evening that the Moscow-based Belarusian-Russian negotiations were "very difficult" but hoped that more negotiations would produce a positive result.

According to Bogdankevich, Minsk hopes for a partial postponement of payments and offers Moscow shares in Belarusian industrial facilities in payment for the remaining part of its $600 million debt. It also hopes to get financial aid from the International Monetary Fund whose emissaries met with Belarusian officials Wednesday in Minsk to phrase a memorandum on economic policies. Late next month Belarus may hope to get an IMF loan, Bogdankevich said.

In June, 1993, Belarus got $98 million as its first hard currency loan under the fund's STF (system transformation facilities) program.

Bogdankevich never opposed the idea of a union with Russia. On the contrary, he would favor "special relations" between Minsk and Moscow, he said. In Bogdankevich's view, "special relations" translated into joint customs policies and agreement on fuel prices. Since Moscow opposes the idea, Belarus will have to learn to protect its interests, Bogdankevich told newsmen.

First of all, the Belarusian parliament must recognize the national monetary unit—the Belarusian ruble—and National Bank coupons in cash circulation.

Bogdankevich hoped Belarus would take advantage of its geographic position and introduce appropriate market tariffs on transit shipments of Russian oil and natural gas to make up for what it spent on the reconstruction of pipelines on its territory.

Hryb Discusses U.S., Russian Aircraft Project

WS2810103094 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0800 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Belarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Myacheslaw Hryb received representatives of the Russian and U.S. aerospace industries on 27 October. The sides discussed the progress of implementing the Belarusian-Russian state program for building the "Belarus" general-purpose aircraft, in which leading Russian and U.S. aerospace companies are involved.

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Moldova

Representative on Results of Moscow Summit

AU2710185194 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2115 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 25/10/1994—The results of the recent meeting of the CIS heads of state can be regarded as sufficiently positive for Moldova and the CIS as a whole, stated to BASA Iacob Mogoreanu, Moldovan representative to the CIS statutory organs. "We are now on the path of natural evolution of events; decisions are made by consensus and not by posing pressure on other states," Mogoreanu said. According to him, the signing of the agreement on creating the [CIS] Interstate Economic Committee is of great importance. "The CIS lays the foundation for an economic union, that is, a secure economic space for Moldova and other CIS states, and a result of its activity should be the overcoming of the economic crisis and the joining of the international economic community," Mogoreanu said. He pointed out that Moldova displayed its reservations regarding the idea of integration within the Eurasian Union proposed by the Kazakh president. "Under current circumstances, when most CIS countries have only begun creating their own statehood and democratic institutions, such a variant would lead to the most tragic consequences," Mogoreanu said. He noted that Moldova does not intend to join the CIS political-military activity. Referring to the unionist statements by Bucharest, he said: "Personally, I see no danger either from the West or East which could make us change our position," stated Iacob Mogoreanu. He added that Moldova's position is not condemned in the CIS structures and that no attempts have been made to compel Chisinau to change it.

Dniester General Claims 14th Army Weapons

AU2710172494 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2115 GMT 25 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 25/10/1994—General Stepan Kitsak, Dniester presidential adviser on military issues, had a tough reaction regarding the signing of the 14th Army's withdrawal agreement. Kitsak told BASA that "the military equipment, munitions, and weapons belong to the Dniester Republic as a successor of the USSR in this geographic area. We worked 70 years for this armament, whereas Moldova only 50." He added that the Tiraspol officials always had a negative attitude towards the Russian troops' withdrawal, saying that "the 14th Army has been located in Dniester for 200 years and has represented a stabilizing factor." Referring to consequences, Kitsak said that the balance of military forces will be in Moldova's favor and this might lead the situation to dramatic consequences. "We do not want incidents or start a new military conflict; this is quite possible, and the Moldovan and Russian top officials will be responsible, since they did not take into account our position," Kitsak concluded.

14th Army Commander Opposes Inspection

MM2710133194 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 1

[POSTFACTUM "Verbatim" report: "Sights on Burlakov"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In an interview with Tiraspol's "Asket" Television, General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, opposed the upcoming inspection visit to be paid to Tiraspol by Colonel General Matvey Burlakov, Russian deputy defense minister and former commander of the Western Group of Forces, saying that for him the latter is a "common cheat whom all Russia's prosecutors have in their sights."

Moldova, Yemen Sign Aircraft Sales Contract

LD2710213594 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Yemen and Moldova have signed a contract for the supply of 30 Mig-29 fighters, the Yemeni SABA news agency reports. The first consignment of fighters will be sent to Yemen by the middle of 1995.

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Kazakhstan

Asian Bank Invests $50 Million in Agriculture

LD2810061194 Almaty Kazakhstan Television Network in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today a memorandum on mutual understanding between Kazakhstan and the Asian Development Bank was signed at the Ministry of Agriculture. Until recently, 53 countries were members of the Asian Bank. And recently Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan became members as well. Uzbekistan is expected to be the next country to join the Asian Bank.

This bank is going to channel 50 million dollars into developing Kazakhstan's agriculture. And as the head of the mission, Mr. (Zidarta), said this figure is not yet final. Taking into account the potential of Kazakhstan's agricultural sector, the council of the Bank intends to add another 10 million dollars to the figure stated in the memorandum.

The agreement was signed by the minister of agriculture of Kazakhstan, Zhanybek Karibzhanov.

In an exclusive interview to our program, Mr.Zidarta noted that in the opinion of the experts of the Asian Bank, it is necessary for Kazakh MPs to make amendments to the policy on taxes, so that it can be profitable for farms to invest money in developing industry. It is also advisable to make amendments to land relations, which would heighten foreign investors' interest in investing money in our republic's agricultural complex.

Nazarbayev Speaks on Asian Security at Forum

LD2710184194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1550 GMT 27 Oct 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: Reports by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev hopes that Kazakhstan's proposal on creation of a system of the Asian security will be implemented, says Nazarbayev's greeting to participants of the the international meeting of experts responsible for the preparation of the Conference on Security and Measures of Confidence in Asia (CSMCA) which was opened in Alma-Ata [Almaty] on Thursday [27 October]. Representatives of 24 countries, the UN, CSCE, and League of Arab states participate in its work.

Addressing the forum, head of Kazakhstan's Foreign Ministry Kasymzhomart Tokayev said that Asia is the largest after Europe region in concentration of armed forces. "There is nuclear weapons in Asia. There are several regional conflicts here and the level of political and economic instability is rather high," he said.

Tokayev believes that the Asian countries need a system of international relations which would successfully develop economy under the situation of confidence and interaction. However, Kazakhstan believes that "it is unacceptable for the Asian countries to blindly copy the experience of the CSCE." "The problem of security guarantees should be resolved on the basis of bilateral agreements and later on by means of conclusion of an All-Asian treaty in the frameworks of the Conference on Security and Measures of confidence in Asia. As far as the scheme of its work is concerned, it would be appropriate to conduct consultations in the frameworks of this forum," he said.

Tokayev said that Kazakhstan is in favor of strengthening the nuclear nonproliferation regime as an important element in the creation of the Asian security system. Tokayev proposed to form a working group to prepare a meeting of foreign ministers of the CSMSA.

As it is known, President Nazarbayev set forth a proposal to create CSMSA at the 47th session of the UN General Assembly in October 1992.

Nazarbayev, Others Discuss Role of Communications

LD2810092794 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0700 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev met yesterday with transport and communications representatives in his residence.

First Deputy Prime Minister Nigmatzhan Isingarin reported that practical measures on organizing the stable work of the railways, motor transport, aviation, and other means of communication during the winter season were discussed at a meeting that had just been held at his ministry. After the measures adopted are confirmed by the government and appropriate departments, they will be implemented as an action program.

Huge responsibility rests on transport. The successful operation of the industry and the whole economy depends on its regular work. The sector's workers are determined to solve their tasks successfully, Transport Minister Serik Aliguzhinov said. The guarantee for this lies in the active development of the process of the republic's integration into the world transport system and in measures to deepen market reforms and the efficient organization of work in conditions of tough material and financial shortages.

The head of state, addressing those present, called on them to be even more active in supporting the reforms in the country, to conduct a reasonable and restrained price policy and probably agree to some reductions in railway transport tariffs, taking into account real expenses.

The Cabinet of Ministers has been requested to consider measures to control prices and set a limit on profit levels, particularly for nonproducing structures.

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Parliament Group Leaves for CIS Meeting

LD2810064194 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0400 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday an official parliamentary delegation of our republic, headed by the chairman of the Supreme Council, Abish Kekilbayev, left for St. Petersburg.

It will take part in the working meeting of the council of the inter-parliamentary assembly of CIS member countries and in its fifth plenary session.

The deputy chairman of the Supreme Council, Zinaida Fedotova, representatives of the committees on national security and defense, on the population, social security, legal reform, legality and law and order and on international and inter-parliamentary relations will take part in the delegation's work.

Caspian Sea Port To Be Privatized

LD2810073294 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0500 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The list of enterprises which are to be privatized as individual projects has been extended by one more enterprise—the Aktau sea-trade port.

In its present condition it was created quite recently at the end of September on the basis of two sea-trade ports, the Aktau and Bautino [on the Caspian sea], which earlier were part of the state international maritime transport joint stock company Aktau.

By the end of this year it will be known who is the legal owner of the brand new large enterprise.

Zhana Uzen Oil Workers Boost Output

LD2810103594 Almaty Kazakhstan Television Network in Kazakh 0705 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The situation is becoming serious at the Zhana Uzen oil production amalgamation as the enterprise is having more problems with spare parts, increased fuel costs, settling payments with customers, and inability to pay workers' wages. Despite all these factors, oil workers are displaying selfless attitude to work. Last month they produced 1,000 tonnes of oil in addition to their planned output. This means that they have recovered 3,900 tonnes of oil for the Southern Oilfields Directorate. The directorate has produced 100,000 tonnes in addition to the planned output since the beginning of 1994.

Kyrgyzstan

President Decrees Elections To Be Held 5 Feb

LD2710202094 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Edict by the president of the Kyrgyz Republic on calling elections to the Supreme Council of the Kyrgyz Republic:

With the aim of facilitating the participation of political parties, public associations and movements, labor collectives, local associations, and individuals as independent candidates in the elections to the Supreme Council and bearing in mind the terms of the election campaign stipulated in the law on electing deputies to the Supreme Council of the Kyrgyz Republic, I decree:

The elections to the Legislative Assembly and to the Assembly of People's Deputies in the Supreme Council are to be held on Sunday 5 February 1995.

[signed] Askar Akayev, president of the Kyrgyz Republic [dated] 27 October 1994

Government House, Bishkek

Edict on Referendum Results, Constitutional Session

LD2710200194 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Edict by the president of the Kyrgyz Republic on the preparation of amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic in the light of the results of the referendum and on forming a Constitutional Session:

With the aim that public opinion should be taken into consideration more fully in preparing the amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic connected to the constitutional amendments adopted at the referendum on 22 October 1994, and proceeding from the necessity of observing the democratic requirements of the constitutional process I decree:

1. With the aim of implementing the results of the referendum held on 22 October 1994, relevant amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic are to be prepared and presented for the consideration of the Supreme Council and the Constitutional Court of the Kyrgyz Republic no later than 1 March 1995.

2. In order to prepare the amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, a constitutional session is to be set up.

3. It should be established that the constitutional session will include: The president of the Kyrgyz Republic, the prime minister, chairman of the Supreme Council, and the former chairmen of the presidium of the republic's Supreme Council, chairman of the Council of Judges of the Kyrgyz Republic, the state secretary under the president of the Kyrgyz Republic, the heads of regional and Bishkek municipal state administrations, the chairmen of regional and Bishkek municipal councils, and representatives from local communities, regions, and from Bishkek, political parties and public associations.

4. The following norms of representation in the Constitutional Session are to be established: From local communities, regions and from Bishkek—35 representatives,

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from the Assembly of Peoples of Kyrgyzstan—15, from political parties—15, from trade unions and other organizations, workers and employees—10, from farmers' associations and organizations—10, entrepreneurs—10, from youth organizations—10, from women's organizations—10, veterans—10, from cultural unions—10.

5. Regional and Bishkek municipal councils, republican central bodies of political parties, public associations, and organizations are asked to make proposals on the candidatures of the relevant representatives to the structure of the Constitutional Session by 5 November 1994.

6. The preparation of amendments and addenda to the 1st edition of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic is to be completed and they are to be published by 20 December 1994.

7. Public discussion of the amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic is to be held until 10 February 1995.

8. The results of the public discussion of the amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic are to be summed up and work on them is to be completed in the light of the results and they are to be presented to the Supreme Council and the Constitutional Court of the Kyrgyz Republic no later than 1 March 1995.

9. A national and international expert study, involving experts in constitutional rights from our country and abroad, of the amendments and addenda to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic is to be conducted.

10. The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic is to ensure the media widely cover the work of the Constitutional Session and solve related organizational and technical matters.

[signed] Askar Akayev, president of the Kyrgyz Republic
[dated] 27 October 1994
Government House, Bishkek

Official Results of Referendum Issued

LD2710181194

[FBIS Editorial Report] Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian at 1000 GMT on 27 Oct 94 broadcasts a report on the protocol from the Central Electoral Commission on the referendum and elections in the Kyrgyz Republic.

It was recorded that that the total number of citizens who had the right to take part in the referendum was 2,231,332. The number of citizens who received ballot papers to vote on the first question was 1,928,110. The number of citizens who received ballot papers to vote on the second question was 1,928,281. The number of people who took part in the poll on the first question was 1,919,921. The number of citizens who took part in the poll on the second question was 1,919,10.

The number of citizens who answered affirmatively to the question of whether amendments and addenda to the Constitution and laws may be put to referenda was 1,636,372. The number of citizens who answered negatively was 201,594.

The number of citizens who answered affirmatively to the question of whether the Supreme Council should be a bicameral body was 1,620,231. The number of citizens who answered negatively was 218,692.

On the first question the number of ballot-papers deemed void was 81,967. On the second issue the number of ballot-papers deemed void was 80,087.

The referendum held in the Kyrgyz Republic on 22 October 1994 is therefore deemed valid and the positive answer to each question put to referendum is to be considered approved in line with item 3 of the decree on the referendum on amendments to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and Article 34 of the law of the Kyrgyz Republic on referenda in the Kyrgyz Republic issued by the president of the Kyrgyz Republic on 21 September 1994, since over 50 percent of the citizens both who took part in the poll and who were on the electoral roll voted for it.

The people of Kyrgyzstan have therefore confirmed that the relevant clauses are to be introduced to the 1st and 2d chapters of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic:

1. Amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and to the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic and other important issues of state life may be put to a referendum (nationwide vote);

2. Legislative power in the Kyrgyz Republic is implemented by the Supreme Council, which consists of two chambers:

The Legislative Assembly of 35 deputies, which sits permanently and is elected on the basis of representing the interests of the whole of the republic's population;

The Assembly of Peoples Representatives of 70 deputies, which works in sessions and is elected on the basis of representing territorial interests.

Chairman of the Commission Ibrayev, Vice Chairman Aleksandr Moiseyev, secretary Bakirova. Members of the Commission: Alimov, Alimbekova, Brusnitsova, Ogarkova, Dzakshilikov, Kholmirzayev, Kholnazarov, Muzayev Golon, Sabitov, Samsaliyev, Satin, [name indistinct] and Sidkova.

26 October, 1994

Tajikistan

Dushanbe Wants Peacekeepers To Have UN Status

LD2710194194 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan in Tajik 1200 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tajikistan has once more called for a special session of the UN Security council to discuss

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the issue of granting the status of UN peacekeeping forces to the CIS peacekeeping forces deployed on its territory, and bringing them under the jurisdiction of the United Nations.

Lakim Qayyumov, the permanent representative of Tajikistan at the United Nations, commented on this issue at the session of the first committee [as heard] of the UN General Assembly while discussing the question entitled "ensuring international security."

Qayyumov said that the situation in Tajikistan and the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border is still uneasy and hostile. The possibility of these clashes spreading and taking on an international character represents the danger that it may spread to other Central Asian countries.

The establishment of peace and stability in Tajikistan is only possible by holding discussions and negotiations and by immediately halting confrontations and disarming all armed groups.

He called the joint CIS peacekeeping forces the decisive factor in eliminating the crisis on the Tajik-Afghan border. As always, we hope that the UN Security Council will consider our proposal to call a special session of the Security Council to discuss the situation in Tajikistan and the surrounding territory and the issue of granting the status of UN peacekeeping forces to the joint CIS peacekeeping forces, Qayyumov said.

The Tajik representative at the UN viewed the dispatch of the first group of 11 UN representatives and their deployment in the country's troublespots a goodwill gesture. He said that the aim of the UN representatives and the joint commission, formed of representatives from the Tajik Government and Tajik opposition, is to supervise the implementation of the agreement signed on 17 September on a temporary cease-fire and the cessation of other hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and inside the country.

Qayyumov stressed that the Tajik representatives are of the opinion that delaying a solution to the republic's problems is the work of those who want the Tajik nation to be scattered.

Gorny Badakhshan State of Emergency Said Illegal

LD2810000094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1940 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The imposition of state of emergency and curfew in Gorny Badakhshan, an autonomous region in the east of Tajikistan, lacks legal force and runs counter to the Tajik Constitution, the chairman of the parliamentary committee for legislation, public order and human rights, Safarali Radzhabov, said in an interview with Interfax Thursday.

State of emergency and curfew were imposed in Gorny Badakhshan by the regional council Wednesday [26 October].

Radzhabov said imposing state of emergency fell into the competence of the parliamentary presidium and was subject to approval by the parliament.

According to Radzhabov, there were no reasons to impose state of emergency in the region. The decision must be lifted as soon as possible by the Constitutional Supervision Committee or the Tajik Supreme Soviet, he insisted.

Elections Discussed With Foreign Envoys

LD2810095294 Dushanbe Tajikistan Radio Network in Russian 0400 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The forthcoming referendum on adopting the constitution and national presidential elections of the Republic of Tajikistan were the subjects of the consultation which was held by Tajik Foreign Minister Rashid Alimov with Mr. Liviu Bota, head of the UN mission in Tajikistan, Russian Ambassador Mecheslav Senkevich, U.S. Ambassador Stanley T. Escudero, and Turkish Ambassador [Orhan] Erdivanli.

Media representatives were told this at a regular briefing in the information department of our republic's Foreign Ministry. During the consultation it was acknowledged as an important principle that the forthcoming major political event of the year be democratic and free. In this regard, considerable attention was paid to discussing some essential organizational issues in the preparations for the referendum and presidential elections. In particular they considered the need to create the conditions for people to freely express their wishes, carrying out measures to guarantee the safety of the population and public order during and after the elections, and organizing broad explanations to the population of the technical aspects of the voting procedure, the election process, the vote count, their counting, and the announcing of the final results.

The meeting noted the great importance of the participation of observers from the United Nations, Russia, the United States, Turkey, and other friendly states, as well as CSCE experts, during the referendum and elections. It also considered the possibility of involving as election observers representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited in Dushanbe and nongovernmental international organizations functioning in Tajikistan.

The meeting expressed the general opinion that the referendum on a new constitution and the national presidential elections should create additional conditions for further uniting the people and giving new impulse to the central targeted process. The meeting said it will promote civic peace and agreement in Tajikistan and will lead Tajikistan to a creative path and the deepening of political and economic reforms for the well-being and prosperity of its people.

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Rakhmonov Said Looking For Support in Leninabad

LD2710191794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1558 GMT 27 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 209 (699) compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Candidate for presidency, Tajik leader Emomali Rakhmonov is seeking to increase the number of his supporters at the elections on November 6 in the Leninabad Region (northern Tajikistan). This is how a government spokesman commented to Interfax on the decision taken at the close meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers to reinstate former chairman of the Leninabad regional council Abduldjalil Khamidov. IF Note: Khamidov was dismissed in July 1994 for power abuse and was to hide from law-enforcement bodies in neighboring Uzbekistan. The spokesman for the republic's head of state, Nuri Karimov, told Interfax that the criminal proceedings instituted by the Tajik Prosecutor's Office against Khamidov were suspended due to the absence of corpus delicti.

An anonymous source in the government believes that Khamidov's rehabilitation is aimed at lowering chances for the victory at the presidential elections of Rakhmonov's rival, Tajik Ambassador in the Russian Federation Abdumalik Abdullodzhanov.

The source believes that Khamidov will render "serious" help to Rakhmonov in the Leninabad Region. Observers forecast that the majority of the population of this republic's largest region prefer Abdullodzhanov.

The source said that staying since Tuesday [25 October] in Khudjant (center of the Leninabad Region) are Interior Minister Yokub Salimov and Vice-Premier responsible for power structures in the Tajik government, Mahmadsaid Ubaydulloyev. The source said that representatives of Dushanbe are likely to hold a private meeting with Khamidov to discuss details of the Rakhmonov's election campaign.

Some sources say that the head of state intends to leave for Kudjant on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, his rival confirmed his readiness for a constructive dialogue with the opposition and called on its representatives to refuse to boycott the presidential elections.

The address by Abdullodzhanov made public on Wednesday night says that the road of the civil accord passes through the open dialogue with the opposition.

In an interview with Interfax he said that he does not rule out the fact that if elected president he will welcome some opposition leaders in the government.

He said that if elected president, he is prepared for a constructive cooperation with the opposition's moderate wing, whose representatives agree to conduct a dialogue with the Tajik leadership.

Representatives of the radical wing who are prepared to fight for the ideas of the Islamic state in Tajikistan are in the minority in Tajikistan, believes Abdullodzhanov.

Refugees who were forced to leave the republic during the civil war in 1992 are the majority of the opposition. They are prepared to return home but they need safety guarantees, said Abdullodzhanov.

An opposition leader, deputy chairman of the Islamic Rennaissance Movement, the opposition's chief negotiator at the inter-Tajik peace talks in Islamabad Akbar Turadzhonzoda told Interfax: "We believe it is illegal to hold elections in Tajikistan because 30 percent of the republic's population live outside the republic. There are no democratic institutes in the country, which would make it possible to hold free elections. Parties and many newspapers are banned."

According to Turadzhonzoda, the elections will not prove their worth for the population in such a situation. The president will not feed the people if the civil war is being waged in the country, believes the opposition leader. "Peace will be established if we come to accord," he said.

Turadzhonzoda believes that the opposition leaders do not intend to occupy any posts in the Tajik government. "We are fighting not for the posts, we want to enable people to choose their future," he said. IF Note: At the third round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad (Pakistan), Turadzhonzoda said about opposition preparedness to extend the agreement on temporary ceasefire on the Tajik-Afghan border for another two months. Among the ceasefire conditions he named the release before November 6 of 52 political prisoners, additional talks with the government delegation after November 6. At the talks the two sides will discuss problems of transitional period and the creation of a state council, as well as consider the two sides' disarmament problem.

Elections Unlikely To Bring Peace

MM2710145594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Oleg Panfilov: "Tajikistan: Going Into Presidential Elections With a Sense of Revenge"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The remaining weeks until the Tajik presidential elections are giving rise to fears of, first, a further exacerbation of the situation and, second, a legalized violation of voters' rights.

The repeatedly amended Law on Elections of the President of Tajikistan has now been tailored to fit the latest candidate—Emomali Rakhmonov. This primarily amounts to the fact that, first, presidential candidates are nominated by oblast soviets of people's deputies (there are three of them in Tajikistan—in Leninabad, Khotlon, and Badakhshan Oblasts), a combined session of the 11 rayons under republic jurisdiction, Dushanbe City Soviet deputies, and two public organizations—the

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League of Young People, which has preserved the Komsomol [Communist Youth League] structure, and republic trade unions. Then nominees have to collect the signatures of 5 percent of the voters (around 150,000) and after that the republic's electoral commission officially registers the presidential candidate. Naturally, the first candidate to be registered was National Assembly Chairman Emomali Rakhmonov, who was nominated by his fellow citizens from Khotlon Oblast as well as by the League of Young People and by the trade unions, whose leaders come from the same oblast. The second candidate— Abdumalik Abdulladzhanov, former head of government and now Tajik ambassador to Russia—also had supporters at home, in Leninabad Oblast. Despite the Rakhmonov team's blatant attempts to pressurize Leninabad deputies, Abdulladzhanov was named as a presidential candidate by a majority vote.

In this connection I must point out another important detail: Following several statements by international organizations—the United Nations and the CSCE—as well as attempts by Andrey Kozyrev and Uzbek President Islam Karimov to persuade Rakhmonov to hold "democratic" elections, officials in Dushanbe have begun to invite the opposition to take part in the electoral process. However, no one has been able to say how the opposition will be able to nominate even one candidate when opposition parties are officially banned.

Commenting on the prevailing situation, Yanush Vovzhinyuk [name as transliterated], a staffer at the CSCE mission in Dushanbe, said that the procedure for nominating republic presidential candidates "is not in line with international norms." The opposition in turn has refused to take part in the elections, citing its own arguments—there is no political pluralism in the republic, around 30 independent newspapers have been closed down, and dozens of political prisoners are in jail.

The temporary cease-fire, which is at the moment being observed by both sides, may be deemed to be the only positive achievement of late. It should be bolstered in the near future by the presence of a group of UN military observers. But this does not mean that the confrontation in Tajikistan will end.

I think that the election results, regardless of whether a particular candidate wins, will not bring peace to the republic: The population is roughly equally divided in its sympathies. A victory for 42-year old Emomali Rakhmonov might elicit separatist sentiments in the north of the republic and cause the opposition to resume the war. Tajikistan is in a disastrous economic position and the population is deprived of even basic foodstuffs, to whit bread. There is a quite well-founded danger of transportation links with Uzbekistan being severed because the latter sympathizes with Abdulladzhanov. And doubts are also being aroused by the return of the bulk of the over 800,000 refugees from Afghanistan and the CIS countries.

Victory for 45-year old Abdumalik Abdulladzhanov, whom many politicians consider a successful businessmen, may not be a basis for stabilization either. Presumably, his candidacy appeals most to the northern—Leninabad—clans, which traditionally held power in Soviet Tajikistan. Moreover around 80 percent of industrial enterprises, primarily the combine engaged in the primary processing of uranium ore, the largest in the former USSR, and the silk and carpet combines, are in his native area. But in the event of his being victorious he would be forced to fight to enter Dushanbe just as Emomali Rakhmonov did 18 months ago.

Doubts about his victory are increasing since Abdulladzhanov, in breach of the Law on Elections, is not being given an opportunity to speak on republic television and radio or to conduct an active election campaign.

By way of an alternative, opposition leaders are proposing to set up a state council and a government of national reconciliation comprising specialists who have espoused a neutral stance in the conflict. That would enable Tajik society to calmly assess the consequences of the civil war over a few years and at least partially get away from the all-pervasive feeling of revenge. The war in Tajikistan strictly speaking is not political or religious. It is interregional and its continuation may lead to the gradual destruction of the nation. There are enough sensible people in Kulyab and in mountainous areas who realize the fatal consequences of Tajiks being annihilated on regional grounds alone. But the deadlock, which is being aggravated by the presidential elections, will hardly reassure the opposition gunmen or government paramilitary detachments. No matter how the military try to deny the emergence of a "second Afghanistan," it is closer than ever.

Opposition Urged Not To Boycott Election

LD2710145194 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1000 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Abdumalik Abdullodzhanov, candidate for the post of the president of Tajikistan, has made a statement in which he says that any further delay in holding the presidential elections and referendum on approving the new constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan will delay the settlement of the most urgent problems facing the republic. Abdumalik Abdullodzhanov called on opposition leaders to show political sense and abandon their intentions to boycott the forthcoming elections and take part in the process of the political and economic reforms in the country together with their compatriots and draw the revival of Tajikistan nearer and provide her people with a dignified life. The presidential candidate sees no alternative.

Opposition Proposes Conditional Cease-Fire Extension

BK2710155894 Hong Kong AFP in English 1041 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad, Oct 27 (AFP)—Tajikistan's Islamic opposition has proposed extending

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the cease-fire which is due to expire next week, but also asked three conditions in return, diplomatic sources said Thursday [27 October].

After one week of UN-sponsored talks with the Tajik government, the opposition proposed a three-month ceasefire extension.

But it also wants:

—The creation of a "security zone" in the Gharm valley, stronghold of the opposition, which would entail the withdrawal of government troops and their replacement by Commonwealth of Independent States' peacekeepers.

—The establishment of a corridor to the Afghan frontier to allow supplies to reach opposition military units at Badakhsan.

—The freeing of additional prisoners. The government in Dushanbe already agreed to free some 50 prisoners during the previous round of negotiations in Tehran in September.

The government delegation has so far rejected the propositions. The negotiations are expected to end late Thursday night or Friday morning.

The negotiations here had initially been aimed at a future national reconciliation, but talks have focused instead on an eventual extension of the ceasefire and its implementation.

In the last round of talks in Tehran in September, the opposition and the government agreed to a ceasefire until November 6, date of presidential elections in Tajikistan. The country has been torn by a two-year-old civil war which has claimed tens of thousands of victims.

Turkmenistan

Iran's Rafsanjani Views Pipeline Opening

LD2710182694 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ashgabat, Oct. 27, IRNA—Operations to lay pipeline for export to Europe via Iranian and Turkish territories of Turkmen natural gas started officially here on Thursday [27 October]. Iranian, Turkish, Azeri and Turkmen heads of state, Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Suleyman Demirel, Geydar Aliyev and Saparmurad Niyazov respectively as well as Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto were present at the inaugural ceremony.

The pipeline is 4,000 km long, 1,450 km of which would pass through Iranian territory. The optimal capacity of the Turkmen natural gas pipeline is 28 billion cubic meters, which would be capable of transferring 15 bn cubic meters of gas to Europe from the republic in its initial phase.

Contract for laying of the pipelines was concluded in Tehran on August 22, 1993, by Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani and Niyazov despite Russia's opposition and pressures on Turkmenistan by the U.S.

Since 1993 up to now Turkmenistan was permitted by Russia to export its gas only to Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

It would take six years to implement Turkmen natural gas project and a five-state council, composed of Iran, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Russia and Kazakhstan, would monitor it.

It would cost dlrs. seven billion to implement the project, which would be probably secured by the said five states. Iran's share is estimated to be dlrs. 3.5 billion. In return for contribution into the project Iran would be granted the right of transit, whose amount would be clarified in detail in the forthcoming sessions of the committee members. Monitoring committee members' next session is expected to be held in Turkey next year.

President Rafsanjani in a brief speech expressed satisfaction with his presence in the inaugural ceremony of the project and said laying of the pipeline was promising for regional development, welfare and peace. He said that he was satisfied with Iran's having a share in that "important" project. The Iranian official expressed hope that Turkmen Republic would immediately attain real independence and welfare in cooperation with "friendly" countries and under Niyazov's leadership.

Demirel said that implementation of the giant project was indicative of the reality that regional states should solve their problems in light of cooperation with each other. He expressed hope that Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan would achieve peace and stability in light of their cooperation.

Bhutto said that heads of important regional state gathered here now to implement a giant project and hopefully a time would come when a project to transfer Turkmen and Iranian gas to Pakistan would be materialized.

Meanwhile, Aliyev said that they were happy to see that the "brother" Turkmen Republic, which up to recent times did not have the authority to decide on its resources, was capable of implementing such a giant project.

Niyazov in conclusion thanked the countries which helped his country's independence and welfare and hoped for further cooperation among "friend" countries in all areas.

[Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian at 1730 GMT on 27 October broadcasts a short related video report on the ceremony as follows: "Operations to construct a pipeline to transfer Turkmenistan's natural gas to Europe began in Ashgabat today amid

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ceremonies attended by the presidents of Iran, Turkmenistan, Turkey, and Azerbaijan as well as Pakistan's prime minister. In brief remarks at the ceremony, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed pleasure at taking part in the ceremony and said: This pipeline is a harbinger of peace, progress, and prosperity in the region. I am delighted that Iran is making a contribution to this important project.

"The pipeline passes through Iran and Turkey. Its length is 4,000 kilometers, 1,480 kilometers of which will be in Iranian territory."

The video shows a ceremony where a segment of the gas pipeline is displayed as a centerpiece]

Bhutto Meets With Iran, Turkish Presidents

BK2710142694 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1300 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto held talks in Ashkhabad with President Suleyman Demirel of Turkey, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani of Iran and President Geyder Aliyev of Azerbaijan. These leaders were also in Ashkhabad to attend the national day celebrations of Turkmenistan.

During the talks with President Suleyman Demirel, bilateral relations, regional situation and important global issues came under discussion. Indian atrocities in occupied Kashmir and genocide of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina came up prominently during the talks.

During the talks with Azerbaijani leader, which lasted 35 minutes, the prime minister exchanged views on matters of mutual interest and regional issues. President Geyder Aliyev assured Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of his country's full support for any measure that Pakistan will take to highlight the Kashmir issue. He also expressed appreciation of the support provided by Pakistan bialterally and internationally for condemnation of Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan.

During the talks with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, bilateral matters and regional issues came under review. The two leaders discussed in detail the Afghanistan situation.

Bhutto's Activities Reported; Kashmir Remarks

BK2810042794 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has said that India cannot deceive the world community through a fraudulent show of elections in occupied Kashmir and that it should honor its commitment by granting the right of self-determination to the Kashmiri people. She was speaking at a banquet hosted by Turkmenistan President Saparmurad Niyazov in honor of visiting heads of states and governments and their official delegations in Ashkhabad last night. The prime minister declared that the people of Kashmir could not be kept under subjugation through oppressive measures and all kinds of brutalities and the Indian troops have failed to crush their struggle.

The prime minister also referred to the Afghan civil war and said Afghan leaders should themselves find a political settlement for peace and stability in their country. She said no specific Afghan group is Pakistan's favorite and that Pakistan wants to achieve national reconciliation in that country.

About Tajikistan, Benazir Bhutto expressed hope that peace talks among rival Tajik groups now under way in Islamabad will help resolve the problem amicably.

Regarding Pakistan and Turkmenistan, the prime minister said both the countries are exposed to extremism, and both seek peace and stability in the region. They wish to link up with each other through Afghanistan and cooperate in trade, gas, rail and road links.

The prime minister joined the presidents of Turkey, Iran, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan at the inauguration of a gas pipeline 25 km from Ashkhabad for supply of gas from Turkmenistan to Europe through Iran and Turkey. She expres ed the hope that another pipeline would be laid from Turkmenistan to Pakistan to bring prosperity to the area.

During the day, Benazir Bhutto also held a wide-ranging exchange of views with the presidents of Turkey, Iran, and Azerbaijan. Matters of bilateral importance and of regional concern figured at the talks with focus on deteriorating situation in occupied Kashmir. Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani specifically underscored the importance of resolving the Kashmir dispute, which is posing a threat to peace in the region. He said the issue has put at stake the future of several neighboring countries. It is extremely important to resolve this dispute to ensure a better future for the region. He promised to lay the gas pipeline from Iran to Pakistan up to India and said they have named it the pipeline of reconciliation.

Benazir Bhutto also talked briefly with reporters last night where she underscored the importance of trade links between Pakistan and Turkmenistan. Pakistan's special correspondent Abdullah Vasin reports from Ashkhabad that the prime minister expressed her keen desire to introduce Pakistani products in Central Asian markets. Earlier, she inaugurated a Pakistan trade exhbition in the Turkmen capital. She also went around various stalls where Turkmen handicrafts were displayed.

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Azerbaijan

Aliyev Back from Ashgabat, Comments on Iran

NC2810070394 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1900 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Geydar Aliyev returned to the homeland from Ashgabat today. Our correspondent Nermine Elikhanbeyli reports.

[Begin recording] [Elikhanbeyli] The delegation headed by the Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev, which took part in Turkmenistan's third independence anniversary celebrations, was seen off at (?Turkmenbashar) airport by Turkmenistan President Saparmurad Niyazov, Speaker of the Parliament Sakhat Muradov, and other officials.

President Aliyev briefed the reporters on board the plane on the bilateral talks held during the visit.

[Aliyev] Bilateral relations were discussed during our bilateral contacts. I met with Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. As you know, friendly and fraternal relations exist between Azerbaijan and Iran. Many documents were signed during my last official visit to Tehran and we are trying to implement them. However, there are also problems which we had to discuss. Such talks and consultations took place. The Iranian oil minister, Mr. Aqazadeh will visit Azerbaijan in the next few days. We will discuss some matters of cooperation in the oil sector.

We also touched upon many other problems. However, I want to dwell on one problem. Of late, some forces have been trying to tarnish and undermine the relations between Azerbaijan and Iran. I think that these are seditious forces. This is because Iran is our next door neighbor, a friendly country. Our relations are very good and should continue to be so. Since I came to power, I personally have tried to eliminate the chill that previously existed between Iran and Azerbaijan; I tried to develop our ties. But, regrettably, there are some forces and circles in Azerbaijan that are acting in a diametrically opposed direction. This does not benefit but instead is to the detriment of the Azerbaijani people and state, and it justifiably creates uneasiness within Iranian society and its leadership.

We already mentioned these fact a few times before and issued some directives, but sadly these are not being heeded. During my meeting with the Iranian Ambassador Mr. Nahavandian yesterday, he conveyed to me some of his uneasiness in this regard. He told me that recently Azerbaijani television had allegedly carried an item that included views detrimental to our relations. I want to state—and I hope our television and press will report this—that I regard such things to be provocative. I am completely opposed to such things and I will issue additional serious directives to the television [words indistinct] to put an stop to such actions.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani told me that allegedly there were some chanting at the rallies during the coup d'etat to the effect that these incidents were organized by Iran. I do not know if such a thing really happened. However, such claims are groundless. I think that Iran does not have, and cannot have had any, connection with the recent domestic confusion and coup attempts by various criminal forces. Therefore, I am hereby stating that such claims—and there might be people claiming this—it would be better if they do not, should not put the blame on the Iranian society.

We held talks on this issue, and I reiterated to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani that our friendly and fraternal ties will continue; and those in Iran and Azerbaijan who want to obstruct our relations should be curbed. On our side, we will do this. I want to convey this to you, and I hope that you will convey my words to the listeners, readers, and viewers.

We also held talks with the Iranian president on economic ties. The talks were held in a friendly, warm and sincere atmosphere. I was very pleased with these talks.

I met with President of Turkey esteemed Suleyman Demirel in Istanbul recently. We again held talks, and discussed some problems. He was interested in the present domestic situation in Azerbaijan. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, too, was very concerned. He told me that they were very uneasy on that [coup] night, and wanted to know the present situation. I told him that there is calm now. Suleyman Demirel also was very interested in the issue. I also informed him that now that the situation is calm, we have stopped the activities of these criminal elements, although some of them have escaped, are hiding either inside the republic or abroad, and are trying to engage in some activities. There is no need to dramatize this too much by saying that they allegedly are uniting and might do something, or could attempt a new coup in Azerbaijan. They cannot do such a thing. The popular solidarity of 4 October showed that no force can scuttle or destroy the present government structure in Azerbaijan. I am sure of this. Despite that, such reports are disseminated abroad, including in Turkey and Iran. That is why both Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Suleyman Demirel were interested in these issues. I provided information to them in this regard. Expressing fraternity and friendship to our republic, Demirel nevertheless advised us to be watchful and maintain internal stability. I told him that we are maintaining and will continue to maintain stability, and we will hinder anyone wanting to undermine stability.

We also discussed economic relations with Suleyman Demirel. As always, our talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship. We will be visiting Turkey in the near future in connection with the celebrations marking the 500th anniversary of [the Azerbaijani poet] Fizuli. Our talks will continue.

This was my second meeting with the Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. My first was in Cairo at the

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beginning of September; this was our second meeting. There are extensive opportunities to develop relations between our countries. Both sides want to make use of these opportunities.

I also briefed Benazir Bhutto on the situation in Azerbaijan. She too was very interested in the situation. I informed her of the need to draw up a number of draft agreements between Azerbaijan and Pakistan. I told her that we have already prepared these drafts and that we could sign them during a possible official visit by Benazir Bhutto to Azerbaijan.

In general, our relations with Pakistan are very good. They are supporting us on international organizations. In turn, we are defending Pakistan. They have their own problem in Kashmir, and we are backing them on that issue. We agreed that she will send a large delegation to Azerbaijan in the near future for talks on financial and economic issues. The delegation will investigate the [word indistinct] in Azerbaijan, and then talks will be held on the official visit of Benazir Bhutto to Azerbaijan.

I believe that these talks, too, were very productive and passed in a friendly atmosphere, and this will help in the development of our relations.

We were taking part in the third anniversary of Turkmenistan's independence. You yourselves saw it. As a good friend, I observed with satisfaction Turkmenistan's achievements, and during my talks with Turkmenistan President Saparmurad Niyazov and the speaker of the parliament I realized clearly that financially and economically Turkmenistan is in good position, that they are making productive use of the foreign investments and credits, that stability exists in their country, and that this is good thing. However, their economic achievements are not confined to these things; they have done great work in other fields as well. Generally, their internal and external situation is good and stable.

We held extensive talks with Saparmurad Niyazov on the further development of our bilateral ties. Relations between our republics is very positive. We have good-neighborly relations. We will further develop these. I am very pleased at having attended the ceremonies. As a friendly and fraternal country, I am pleased with Turkmenistan's achievements. I believe that enormous opportunities for cooperation exist among us. We agreed with Saparmurad Niyazov to make mutual use of these opportunities.

[Elikhanbeyli] What about the (?cotton) [words indistinct].

[Aliyev] He promised me to look into this issue tonight, and will help as much as he can.

[Elikhanbeyli] While going to the meeting with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, you told us yesterday that [words indistinct] on the Caspian. The Russian press is reporting that the position of Iran and Russia coincide on the Caspian and that Iran is opposed to the oil contract [words indistinct].

[Aliyev] Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani is denying this. He says: We have held no such talks with Russia, we have only—and this was a process started a year ago—been saying that such talks are necessary to forge cooperation in the Caspian Sea. This was the reason for holding such a meeting. However, this coincided with the signing of your contract and then the Russian press started publishing such incorrect reports. Hashemi-Rafsanjani refuted such reports.

[Elikahnbeyli] Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev was a welcomed at Baku's Bina airport on the night of 27 October by Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Rasul Guliyev, Acting Prime Minister Fuat Guliyev, First Deputy Chairman of the Parliament Arif Rehimzade, deputy prime ministers, ministers, and heads of committees and enterprises. [end recording]

Minister Critical of Russia on Plane Hijacking

NC2710204694 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The terrorists seized a Russian plane in Makhachkala on 25 October. The passengers, one of the pilots and one stewardess were taken hostage. Various Russian news agencies reported today the terrorist killed himself with an explosive device when a special team from the Counter-Intelligence Service launched the operation to neutralize the terrorist.

His plane ticket shows him to be a certain Baku resident, Elton Mekhtizade.

[Begin off-screen reporter recording] Elton Mekhtizade, 22, who is staying at one of the hostels in the Zardob region of Baku, appeared at the Republic's Interior Ministry today and said that he has no connection with the crime.

The problem is that Elton's and a number of other hostel residents' passports kept in the guard room had gone missing for unknown reasons 15 days ago. It is not yet clear how Elton's passport passed into the hands of criminals.

However, the unfounded slander against Azerbaijan and the Azerbaijanis and the dissemination of wrong information to the entire world is regrettable.

This is what the Republic's Interior Minister Ramil Usubov said:

[Usubov] We also looked into the incident involving the plane in Makhachkala, because it was said there that these terrorists wanted the plane to land in Baku. Therefore, we too got involved in the affair. There, they stated that these terrorists were allegedly Azerbaijanis, they were Azerbaijani nationals. However, as you can see now, the citizen has come here and himself said that he is the man mentioned and that he has not killed himself. As you can see, he is alive and healthy.

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In this connection, I would like to state that for the Russian news agencies to frequently allude to the nationality of the criminal is not tasteful. In general, I believe that a criminal has no nationality. A criminal is a criminal, be he Azerbaijani, Russian, or any other nationality. Therefore, this sort of frequent allusion to nationality could undermine the traditional friendship between our peoples. Therefore, I would request that in similar cases in the future they act with some prudence. We have already informed our Russian Interior Ministry counterparts on this issue, and they are taking the necessary measures in this regard. [end recording]

Georgia

National Democrats Claim Russians Bugged Offices

LD2710221894 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Giorgi Chanturia, chairman of the Georgian National Democratic Party, held a news conference today at the party headquarters. On completing the news conference, Girogi Chanturia granted an interview to correspondent Mzia Dalakishvili.

[Begin recording] [Dalakishvili] Could you say a couple of words about the topic of the news conference?

[Chanturia] Our news conference dealt mainly with the wire-tapping we found at our headquarters. The most depressing fact is that the information was obtained by a foreign country, namely Russia. This, to put it mildly, indicates once again that neither our sovereignty nor our independence is unfortunately a reality, at least at the present stage.

[Dalakishvili] What do you think about the upcoming elections?

[Chanturia] There are forces who are against holding elections due to various reasons, or rather causes. Some say that Georgia's territorial integrity has been violated, but I cannot agree with them, because a war was on during the previous elections. Some say that the Georgian Constitution has not been adopted, but that we can adopt a constitution after the elections. The fact that the Abkhazian issue has not been settled means nothing. We can give some status to it and record it in the election regulations, or we can leave it without a status and consider the area as a hot point. I can state that the present authorities have failed to find a settlement to the Abkhazian issue. Therefore, new authorities are needed and these new authorities can only come to power through elections. This is our position regarding the elections. Our party has rather serious ambitions and we do hope to achieve a serious victory.

[Dalakishvili] There are continuous actions, some calling for Shevardnadze's resignation, and others against the resignation. How long can this process continue?

[Chanturia] For as long as we have weak authorities.

[Dalakishvili] Referring to your news conference, I would ask you this question: What influence do you think Russia and the mafia structures could exert on the elections?

[Chanturia] If the majority vote system is used in the elections, the influence will be enormous. Russia and the mafia structures may decide the fate of the elections. However, if the proportional representation system is used in the elections, the influence of these forces will be minimized. All this is mainly connected to finances.

[Dalakishvili] Thank you. [end recording]

Shevardnadze 'Forcing' Russian General's Disclaimer

MM2710150594 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by special correspondent Igor Lenskiy: "Instead of a Denial"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Major General Vasiliy Yakushev, commander of the peacekeeping forces in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone, has appeared on television denying the accuracy of a fragment of an interview published in our newspaper 21 October.

How are we to account for this step? According to reliable sources, the text of the interview was read over the telephone to the general by military department officials in Moscow on the day of publication. On the same day Georgian Defense Minister B. Nadibaidze telephoned Yakushev and informed him that Shevardnadze was livid, and that demands for the commander's dismissal were gathering head in the Georgian parliament. Despite this, Vasiliy Ivanovich, meeting with your correspondent on two further occasions—22 and 23 October—did not say a word about the published text not corresponding to what he said. The general asserted this for the first time only on 25 October, after leaving Shevardnadze's office in Tbilisi.

The original of the dictaphone transcription, which is in my possession, confirms that all the assessments and judgements expounded in the interview belong to V. Yakushev himself, and that the last paragraph, which prompted the denial, is reproduced verbatim.

Understanding the delicacy of the commander's position, forced as he is to balance between two fires, it is impossible not to see the eyes and ears of Eduard Shevardnadze at work in this story. Once upon a time he destroyed a great state and championed sovereignty for all and sundry, but subsequently he refused this right to tiny Abkhazia, provoking one of the bloodiest conflicts in the former USSR in the Caucasus. And now he orchestrates a public dressing-down of the Russian general, forcing him to disavow his own words.

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Many Shevardnadze Edicts 'Not Implemented'

LD2710223994 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY in Russian 1700 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi—According to (?Hamlet Kuprashvili), chief state adviser on controlling the implementation of the Georgian Head of State's [Eduard Shevardnadze] instructions and on relations with Georgia's central executive bodies, many decrees and edicts issued by the Georgian Head of State are not implemented by the Georgian government. Moreover, government structures often distort their essence and subject matter. This is a flagrant violation of official discipline impeding the implementation of the socio-political course chosen by the country's authorities.

Commission Approves Refugee Return Schedule

LD2710214894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1855 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchegoleva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sochi October 27 TASS—The schedule of refugee return to the Abkhazian Gali region was approved at today's session of the quadripartite commission in Sochi. This is a major meeting result, representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry Andrey Nikiforov told ITAR-TASS.

Under the schedule, the first return stage will be completed on December 6. Within this period about 1,000 refugees will return to the Gali region. People will be brought to transit centers on Wednesdays and Fridays to be further transported to places of their permanent residence.

"It is most important that this process is planned and not spontaneous," said Nikiforov. "This will help to remove people's fears and enable normal work of the mission of the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and members of local quadripartite commissions." In his words, the refugees will start to return to their hometowns next week.

The meeting also listened to a report of representatives of the U.N. mission dwelling on the return process. They are planning to render material aid to the returnees and deliver a large batch of construction materials to Abkhazia.

Opposition Rallies Around Hunger Strikers

AU2710155894 Tbilisi REZONANSI in Georgian 20-21 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Tea Rusitashvili and Luka Paliani: "Georgia Is on Hunger Strike"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted]

Uncompromising Temur Zhorzholiani

According to the METSKHRE TALGHA [NINTH WAVE] Agency, a comprehensive medical examination was conducted on hunger striker Temur Zhorzholiani [leader of the Conservative-Monarchist Party] by a medical board at Polyclinic No. 9 in Mtatsminda Rayon [Tbilisi], as a result of which the board concluded that it was impermissible for him to continue his hunger strike. The medical report is dated 7 October.

Today is 20 October and Temur Zhorzholiani is in the twenty-fourth day of his hunger strike. Some 50 persons making up the first wave of hunger strikers are in medical institutions. They include three deputies: Tsulaia, Jojua, and Zhorzholiani. Between 60 and 70 persons are currently participating in the action.

They are demanding one thing: Eduard Shevardnadze's resignation. The participants in the action are not intending to make any compromises and will not even accept a limitation of the head of state's powers.

Eduard Shevardnadze has not reacted at all to the statement issued by the Conservative-Monarchist Party, its open letter, and challenge to participate in a television debate.

The "Roundists"—Bad Mujahidin

On 18 October, the participants in the sit-down action in the courtyard of Merab Kostava's [deceased co-leader of the National Liberation Movement] house [begun on 13 October by parties belonging to the opposition "Round Table" who are demanding the removal of Russian troops from Georgian territory, the liberation of political prisoners, and the restoration of the former authorities] held a news conference. In response to a question concerning the supposed participation of the "Roundists" in the elections, their leaders stated that their participation in them would signify a rejection of their legal inheritance and, moreover, these elections were being held by mafia structures, with whom making a deal would be immoral. It was said at the conference that the widow and family of [ex-President] Gamsakhurdia, who are living in Groznyy [Chechnya], were in a serious psychological and material situation, as a result of which an appeal has been sent to the world public asking civilized countries to provide refuge for Zviad Gamsakhurdia's family.

On 19 October, the organizers of this action held a rally in the courtyard of Merab Kostava's house. [passage omitted]

Afterwards, the organizers held a meeting of parties represented and not represented in Parliament in the "Tsodne" Society building where the monarchist Temur Zhorzholiani is on hunger strike. Giga Zaalishvili, leader of the "League of Patriots" who is supporting Zhorzholiani in his action, called upon the other parties to support the action and create a single action center.

Irakli Tsereteli [leader of the National Independence Party] rebuked Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters: "You have been unable to act like the Afghan mujahidin and

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overcome Shevardnadze." Tsereteli asked the organizations making up the "Round Table" to abandon their demand for the restoration of the legal authorities, which will unite the opposition national forces.

Temur Zhorzholiani, who looked quite weak, stated that, by his action, he would stir Shevardnadze to undertake a moral act, admit his mistakes, and resign. Zhorzholiani said that advancing the demand that the legal authorities be restored could lead to bloodshed. According to him, following Shevardnadze's departure, parliamentary rule should be declared until spring when new elections would be held. Zhorzholiani does not pin any hopes on the activities of the "National Liberation Front" [recently created by former Prime Minister Sigua and former Defense Minister Kitovani whose principal aim is the immediate return of Abkhazia].

Grape Harvest Yields 'Depressing' Results

AU2710155794 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 19 Oct 94 p 3

[GIA agency report under the rubric "According to Reports From Correspondents and Information Agencies: 'Grape Harvest: Depressing Results'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The grape harvest has been completed on farms in Signakhskiy Rayon. A little more than 13,000 metric tons have been gathered. The grape harvest in the region's other rayons where the harvest is coming to an end are just as low. As Omari Chkhatarashvili, head of the viticulture department in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, informed a GIA correspondent that, by 18 October, 10,400 metric tons of grapes had been picked in Kakheti [principal winegrowing area in eastern Georgia]. This amounts to only 10 percent of the harvest that had been forecast. At this time last year, 58,600 metric tons had been picked.

Little hope is being pinned on compensation for the shortfall in the harvest in Kakheti and on the grape-picking campaign launched in Kartli and in western Georgia. The same factors—a lack of fuel and credits—are influencing the grape harvest in a most significant way in these areas as well.

A limited harvest is being received from the population as well. According to Omari Chkhatarashvili, the peasants—the majority of plantations have already been privatized—are preferring to sell their harvest independently without waiting until the state has the funds to settle accounts with farmers.

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Estonia

U.S. Envoy Visits; Russia Said Breaching Pact

WS2810105894 Tallinn BNS in English 1516 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Tallinn, Oct 27, BNS—U.S. Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs, Lynn E. Davis, at meetings with Estonian officials in Tallinn on Thursday [27 October] categorically fended off allegations that a secret agreement on the division of spheres of influence existed between Washington and Moscow.

"I have seen no such memorandum, and if I had seen it I sure would have rejected it," Davis said at a press conference, referring to earlier reports by a Washington newspaper that a memo on the topic had been circulated in the State Department.

She said the United States was not going to contribute to dividing the world into spheres of influence and added that it was Washington's aim to draw Estonia closer to a new European unity rather than to draw new frontiers.

Davis at a meeting with acting Foreign Minister Juri Luik discussed means to cut down the exports of ordinary weapons and bar the transit of illegal goods through Estonia. The United States will supply the Estonian customs with special equipment for x-raying cargoes, Luik told reporters after the meeting.

Also discussed at the meeting was possible expansion of the NATO. The Estonian minister in this connection underscored the importance of paying attention to ensuring Estonia's security in case steps in that direction are to be undertaken.

Davis pointed out as important Estonia's membership in the NATO Partnership for Peace program, saying it was under this framework that Estonia's security and independence were being ensured. She said it was the United States' firm position that Estonia must be an independent country.

She also repeated Washington's promise to give 10 million dollars for putting to work a Baltic peacekeeping battalion. Estonian Defense Ministry officials present at the meeting defined the spheres in which aid was most needed.

Luik, speaking about the retired Russian military who illegally remained in Estonia after the withdrawal of the army troops, said continuing presence of former Russian officers on the country's territory was a sign of Russia's failure to correctly fulfill the troop withdrawal agreement.

The Estonian foreign minister at the press conference called this an "important international issue."

Also discussed at the meeting were issues related to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Davis told reporters that the United States didn't support Russia's proposal to give the CSCE more authority and turn it eventually into a so-called "European United Nations" which could also veto decisions by other European bodies. Davis added that security organizations needed to operate on a principle of consensus rather than that of voting. She said Washington wished that CSCE could be able to more quickly react to crisis situations and respond to the need for crisis prevention. [passage omitted]

New Prime Minister Outlines Priorities

LD2710154994 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1300 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Riigikogu today authorized the current environment minister, Andres Tarand, to form a government. Sixty three Riigikogu members voted for Tarand, one against, 15 abstained, 14 did not vote. The only Riigikogu member to vote against Tarand was Katrin Linde. According to the constitution, Tarand has seven days to forward a new list of government to the president for endorsement.

Before the vote, Andres Tarand made a report before the Riigikogu about the principles for forming his government. He said that under no circumstances should the government make any radical changes in the economy. Tarand emphasized the importance of adopting the 1995 state budget no later than January 1995. Tarand said that the drawing up of the 1996 budget should start as early as spring 1995.

Andres Tarand regarded it as very important to widen the legislation regulating the government's activities. He deemed it important to adopt, among others, an anti-corruption law, a law on state property, a law on universities, a law on research and development, a law on trade legislation, a law on resource-saving development, and to draw up development plans for the state. He also promised to improve control over the health service and deemed it important to improve education affairs.

Following the vote in the Riigikogu, Andres Tarand gave an interview to Estonian Radio:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Could you please explain the Christmas Peace issue.

[Tarand] The Christmas Peace issue is extremely simple—every state must live by its budget. Unless a state budget is adopted, life would be in a rather large-scale mess. To prevent the drawing up of the 1995 budget becoming part of the pre-election campaign—to some extent this is inevitable anyway—and to adopt the budget is the best I can do for the next government.

[Correspondent] What do you mean by the law on resource-saving development?

[Tarand] This is one of the strategic and long-term tasks that every country in the world is tackling and that has

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no firm basis in Estonia. All we have got is that everybody knows how important it is to look to the distant future. For example, in power engineering, the issue would be about that power station has to be built. What we need now is to adopt a law that would make this long-term approach obligatory. This would be just the beginning of a continuous process. It is important because it would establish, alongside current issues, activities which are crucial for the long-term stability of the Estonian state.

[Correspondent] You said that the most difficult issue for you is that of the interior minister. How are you going to solve it?

[Tarand] This is an issue of personalities. I think that it would be better to find a good organizer, a person with a firm hand, rather than use the appointment of interior minister to balance the government.

[Correspondent] How would you comment on the result after the negotiations and today's vote?

[Tarand] The only comment I can think of is that the Riigikogu has fully accepted the message that it is better for Estonia's democratic development to accept interim government such as this, rather than to face unscheduled elections. It could also be the other way round—the Riigikogu has reached this conclusion itself and I simply voiced their wish from the rostrum. [end recording]

Latvia

Court Reviews Saeima Deputy's KGB Links

LD2710215094 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today a closed session of the court in the Riga suburb of Latgale resolved to hear the (?test) case of Saeima deputy Edvins Inkens on charges of collaboration with the former KGB. Procurator Astra Leicenko explained that the court intends to interrogate former KGB officers who have made written statements connected with the confidentiality of this work. In Russia, which is heir to the rights of the USSR, criminal proceedings are provided for disclosing information about the methods, tactics, and structure of the KGB's activities within the former USSR.

According to unofficial reports reaching the BNS agency, the Latgale court today, in examining the case against Edvins Inkens, read out the opinion of the procurator. Tomorrow the case will continue. The questioning of witnesses is also envisaged. Today court officials in Latgale declined to give the media representatives any information about the court proceedings. Chairman of the Court Aivars Kapersmits explained that existing laws forbid court officials from giving media representatives information about court proceedings. Kapersmits predicted that the court hearing will continue at least two weeks.

Officer Says Border Service 'Fully Corrupt'

WS2810103394 Tallinn BNS in English 1803 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Oct 27, BNS—The Latvian national frontier was fully corrupt in 1993, senior frontier guard officer Gustavs Kalnins said Wednesday [26 October] during a related government seminar.

The frontier service corruption started in the customs which set up its first posts in 1991 after Latvia regained independence from the Soviet Union.

Kalnins exemplified his statements saying that "many quality goods are confiscated on the frontier daily but they never show up in the official customs auctions." Kalnins said he saw local authorities "scuffling like hyenas" to buy these goods at low prices and write in documents later that the auction failed to sell them. In two years, 160 frontier guards were sacked for bribes taking, Kalnins noted.

The existent legislation encourages corruption and tougher sanctions are needed against corruption, bribery and other violations of law. The situation could also be improved by raising salaries of frontier and customs officers and solution of their social problems.

Kalnins said his viewpoint was formed while commanding the Jelgava frontier guard battalion and being in direct touch with corruption in frontier guarding and customs work. The official, however, failed to comment on the latest developments on the Latvian frontier.

'In Principle' Bill on Stateless People Approved

WS2710145994 Tallinn BNS in English 1311 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Oct 27, BNS—On Thursday [27 October], Latvian Saeima (parliament) approved in principle the bill on former Soviet citizens', who are not citizens of any other state, status in the Republic of Latvia.

The Latvia's Way, the Political Association of Economists, the People's Harmony Party, the Equality of Rights and the Democratic Party factions voted for the bill, the Latvian National Conservative Party LNNK, the Christian Democrats Union and the Latvian Farmers Union factions voted against the bill. The Homeland and Freedom faction did not take part in voting.

As reported, the consideration of the bill was postponed in the previous Saeima plenary meeting, when National Bloc's deputies suspended the accepting of the bill by not taking part in voting on it.

The Saeima rejected the 20 National Bloc deputies' handed in proposal to suspend the consideration of the bill and pass it to the Legal Committee for reconsideration.

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The National Bloc accepted Wednesday an announcement, proposing to postpone the consideration of the bill. The National Bloc considers that, when coming into effect, the law on foreigners and stateless persons' arrival and stay in Latvia must determine not only the status of the former Soviet citizens, but also the status of all the foreigners, who have arrived in Latvia till July 1, 1994.

The bill will be considered in its second reading after Nov. 28.

The Legal Committee's prepared bill provides for issuing identification certificates to those Latvia's residents, who have registered themselves at a permanent place of living and who have legal source of subsistence.

Lithuania

Brazauskas, French President Discuss Issues

LD2710121094 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1000 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Algirdas Brazauskas returned from France last night. A meeting between Algirdas Brazauskas and French President Francois Mitterrand took place at the end of Brazauskas' two-day official visit to UNESCO and his unofficial visit to France.

Their discussion lasted about one hour. The meeting was attended by French European Affairs Minister Alain Lamassoure and by other officials.

Algirdas Brazauskas congratulated the French president on the occasion of his 78th birthday. They recalled their meeting last year. During that meeting Francois Mitterrand said that official France and Europe approved Lithuania's joining the European community and would support its steps in that direction.

Algirdas Brazauskas described to the French president the Lithuanian-Polish treaty and its significance to further interstate agreements. He also informed Francois Mitterrand of how Lithuania is solving the problems of Russian military transit over Lithuania's territory. Algirdas Brazauskas said that the drafting of an agreement with Belarus is nearing completion and expressed his belief that this agreement will be signed shortly.

Francois Mitterrand said that the way Lithuania is organizing its relations with the neighboring countries is a European method of solving problems. He expressed satisfaction with Franco-Lithuanian relations and stressed that they have been developing in a very dynamic manner in the last few years.

French European Affairs Minister Alain Lamassoure noted that the volume of French trade with Lithuania is several times greater than with Latvia and Estonia.

A French representative will chair the European Union from the beginning of next year. Francois Mitterrand believes that during that time an agreement on Lithuania's associated membership will be signed.

Accord Signed With Russian Trade, Industry Chamber

LD2810101094 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0800 GMT 28 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Mindaugas Cerniauskas, president of the Association of the Lithuanian Trade and Industry Chambers, and Stanislav Smirnov, president of the Russian Trade and Industry Chamber, have signed a cooperation agreement in Moscow.

The document envisages the establishment of direct contacts between Lithuanian and Russian businessmen, exchanges of business information, and the establishment of a business council of both states. This council will be established in Vilnius next January or February.

The Lithuanian delegation, comprising 70 representatives of industry, business, and banks and 15 representatives of state institutions, will continue their meetings in Moscow today.

U.S. Envoy Visits; Russian View of Transit

WS2710093294 Vilnius ELTA in English 0746 GMT 27 Oct 94

[From "News Bulletin" No. 617]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, October 26, ELTA—On Wednesday [26 October] U.S. delegation headed by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State for arms' control and international security Lynn E. Davis met Lithuanian representatives from the institutions working on Lithuanian foreign policy and international security issues.

During the meeting Lithuanian and U.S. representatives discussed U.S. policy on Baltic states after the withdrawal of the Russian army and possible U.S. aid for the joint Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian peace-keeping battalion.

Lithuanian officials informed U.S. deputy Secretary of State about the situation of smuggling radio-active materials, drugs and weapons in Lithuania.

At the press conference, that took place after the meeting, Lithuanian Foreign Ministry Secretary Albinas Januska informed that the Ministry received a statement from Russia, in which Russian leaders had expressed their opinion about the newly adopted regulations on military transit via Lithuanian territory.

Januska stated that Russia did not approve these regulations.

According to Januska, the Russia's statement would be discussed with Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas.

Lynn E. Davis expressed hope that Lithuania and Russia would manage to solve the problem concerning military transit via Lithuanian territory. She added that any solution of the problem would not prevent Lithuania from becoming a real member of European political and military organizations.

Lynn E. Davis noted that the issue should be solved in such a way that it would not affect Lithuania's sovereignty.

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